

# Mayhem Poets perform poetry



Photo by Zack Hill

Last night at Pirate Underground in Mendenhall Student Center, the Mayhem Poets exhibited both poetic skill and dynamic theatrics as they performed for their audience. The Poets - Scott Tarazetsis, Kyle Sutton and Mason Grange - specialize in slam poetry and perform for schools and universities. Their goal is to inspire everyone to be creative and write and perform their art. The information appearing here came from mayhempoets.com, where students can go to learn more about this group of artists, including their upcoming performance dates.

# Big game not far away

Lottery contract goes to GTECH

**ZACK HILL**  
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

The highly anticipated start of the first North Carolina lottery is going to arrive sooner than expected, with the first scratch-off tickets set to go on sale in March and the lotto-style tickets set for release May 30.

The announcement comes after the state lottery commission chose GTECH Holdings Corp. to run the games. GTECH was in a heated competition with Scientific Games Corp., a company that has come under investigation for possibly breaking state lobbying laws last year.

The investigation has already forced the resignation in November of lottery commissioner Kevin Geddings. Geddings had failed to previously disclose that he had worked for Scientific Games during the time the lottery debate was taking place in the state legislature.

House Speaker Jim Black, D-Mecklenburg, has also come under scrutiny as a result of the

see **GAME** page A2

# ECU VOICE speaks out about violence



Ashley Wrenn shares her view on domestic violence issues.

Addressing abuse, rape and other 'hot' topics

**CLAIRE MURPHY**  
STAFF WRITER

ECU VOICE held an open mic benefit Tuesday, Jan. 31 at Muddsinger's downtown to spread awareness of the domestic violence issue in Pitt County. Donations were accepted and went to the anti-violence campaign, V-Day 2006. The benefit is a prelude to the much-anticipated Vagina Monologues coming Feb. 10 - 12.

The coffee shop was a comfortable place to sit and listen to the 10 volunteer readers who participated in speaking on rape, sexual abuse and spousal abuse. Anyone who signed up could express themselves freely on the "speak up and stop the violence" theme.

Host Lorian Long, who is also the president of VOICE and producing the Vagina Monologues, began the presentation with some

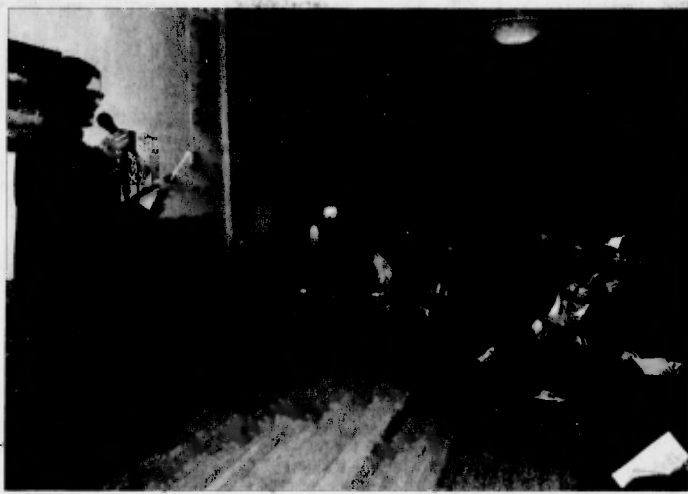


Photo by Zack Hill

Students were encouraged to attend *The Vagina Monologues* in Wright Auditorium Feb. 10 - 12.

frightening statistics including "three women are murdered by their husband or boyfriend every day," and "one out of 16 accused rapists will spend time in jail, while 15 walk free."

Most of the participants read poems that had very dark and serious messages expressing personal feelings on the sensitive topic. Speaker and audience member Ashley Wrenn said, "It is important for anyone to come to events like this that promote awareness because violence (against women) is not recognized enough."

Another speaker and poet, Bridget Todd, said, "People think this is such a far away issue and

don't recognize that it could be happening to their neighbor or in their own dorm. Listening to the people speaking from experience can really give violence a face."

The violence awareness presentation at Muddsinger's was partially sponsored by the Family Violence Program of Pitt County and was helped by the student director of the Vagina Monologues, Nikki Crews. Tickets for the upcoming Vagina Monologues will be available outside Wright Place this week and next week or at ecurts.com.

The evening also featured a closing performance with a powerful song by the band Someone's Sister, who has

traveled the country promoting the knowledge of domestic violence with lyrics inspired by local headlining news articles. The artists in the band are Georgia Winfree and Katherine Jones. They can also be heard on their Web site, someone'sister.com.

Long said during her conclusion, "Come to the Vagina Monologues Feb. 10, 11 or 12 and bring all of your friends."

I, too, would encourage you all to go. You could find yourself a better man or walk out feeling like a true woman.

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



Latwon Johnson (left) and Andrew Canty (right) in police mug shots.



# ECU student charged with murder in Raleigh

Wife of Berkley conspired with teens for death of a Navy Reservist

**JESSICA KELLY**  
CONTRIBUTED WRITER

Latwon Johnson, an ECU freshman, is charged with first-degree murder in the shooting death of Paul Berkley.

Berkley, 46, was a member of the Navy Reserve and had returned from the Middle East to spend the holidays with his family.

On Berkley's third night home, he was shot and killed at a North Raleigh Millbrook Exchange park after a romantic night out to dinner and a movie with his wife.

His wife, Monique Berkley, 26, according to WRAL News confessed to investigators that she lured her husband to the park where he was shot and killed.

Andrew Canty, 18, was also charged with first-degree murder and lived with Monique Berkley during his love affair with her during Paul Berkley's deployment.

Police said Monique Berkley, Canty and Johnson, conspired to kill Paul Berkley and collect on his life insurance policy.

Johnson and Canty started

hanging out more after Johnson started dating Monique Berkley's stepdaughter, Becky Berkley, 16.

Johnson and Berkley's relationship fell apart after Johnson left for college.

He lived in Belk Hall and was studying business as a first year on-campus student.

According to WRAL News, Lamar Johnson had saved enough money to pay a semester's tuition for both brothers at ECU.

Brant Bush, 18, an Aycock resident said, "I was rather creeped out to find out that a murderer lived two dorms down from me. It makes me sad to see this happen to a person who just came back from the Middle East."

Police searched Johnson's dorm room and took computers and cell phones as evidence.

Timothy Dixon, an ECU Police officer said, "Raleigh had contacted ECU Police and wanted to know if he was here. They (ECU Police) didn't want to talk to the suspect without paper work because they were worried he would destroy evidence."

According to ECU Police they didn't get a warrant in time before the suspect left, but he (Johnson) was caught along with Canty in Raleigh.

Johnson had a Facebook account with ECU, where his

see **MURDER** page A2

# Ploy for peace gets famous activist jailed

Sheehan arrested for unlawful conduct

**ZACK HILL**  
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Peace activist Cindy Sheehan is back in the national spotlight again, this time getting arrested for causing a disruption in the House of Representatives galley just before President Bush's State of the Union address Tuesday night. Sheehan's son, Casey Austin

Sheehan, was killed in Iraq, and she almost immediately started gaining attention as one of the most outspoken citizens against the war.

In April 2004, Sheehan and other relatives of soldiers killed in Iraq met with Bush at Fort Lewis, Washington. Sheehan says that during the meeting, the president didn't want to hear about her son and even refused to look at pictures of him.

In August 2005, Sheehan and

other protestors began camping outside the president's ranch in Crawford, Texas. The group was demanding a meeting with Bush, but the president refused to meet with her again.

Rep. Lynn Woolsey, D-California, another supporter of immediate withdrawal from Iraq, had invited Sheehan as a guest Tuesday night. Sheehan showed up wearing a T-shirt that said, "2,245 Dead. How many more?" referring to the number of U.S.

soldiers killed in Iraq.

Sheehan was asked to cover up the message and refused. She was handcuffed and arrested around 8:30 p.m. on charges of unlawful conduct. She was released a few hours later.

*Not One More Mother's Child*, a book Sheehan wrote about her son and the war in Iraq, was published in November 2005.

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

# NEWS

2-02-06

Page A2 news@theeastcarolinian.com 252.328.6366

RACHEL KING News Editor ZACK HILL Assistant News Editor

THURSDAY February 2, 2006

## Announcements

### Dance 2006

Dance 2006 continues in the week of Jan. 29 - Feb. 4. Highlights include choreography by School of Theatre and Dance faculty and guest artists. Sometimes serious, sometimes funny, sometimes lyrical and sometimes eccentric, this annual dance showcase has become an immensely popular event. Sure to have something for dance aficionados and newcomers alike, this is a fast-paced and unpredictable cornucopia of styles. For more information visit [ecuc.edu/cs-studentlife/mcginnis/playhouse.cfm](http://ecuc.edu/cs-studentlife/mcginnis/playhouse.cfm).

### Groundhog Day Concert

The ECU Folk and Country Dancers are sponsoring a free acoustic music concert performed by Fols Arts Society of Greenville members and guests Thursday, Feb. 2 at 7 p.m. at Muddlinger's Coffee Co. located at 409 Evans St. downtown. Admission is free. For more information, call 752-7350.

### Elite Pirates

Applications are now being accepted for induction into this premiere recognition program designed to honor the top student leaders at ECU. Only 11 student leaders will be selected for this honor based on their academics, leadership and community service. "The Elite Pirates" selected will receive a university plaque, induction into "The Elite Pirates" Student Hall of Fame, a \$150 leadership honorarium and receive recognition with other campus/community leaders during ECU Founder's Week. Applications are available in 207 Mendenhall Student Center. The deadline to submit an application is Friday, Feb. 10 at 4:30 p.m. Interviews will be conducted Feb. 20 - 24. The Induction Program will take place on Mar. 29 at 2:30 p.m. in MSC Hendrix Theatre. Founder's Week is March 27 - 31. For more information contact the Office of the Assistant Vice Chancellor for Student Experiences at 328-4702.

### Take My Picture

Joyner Library is looking for students who are interested in volunteering as models for photos to be used in library publications and other materials. Interested individuals should contact Bill Bunting at [buntingw@ecu.edu](mailto:buntingw@ecu.edu).

### Student Homecoming Chair Applications

The Homecoming Committee is currently looking for a person to fill the 2006 position of Student Homecoming Chairperson. The position calls for the applicant to oversee seven subcommittees, manage a \$19,000 budget, process expenditures in a timely fashion and chair all student homecoming bi-weekly meetings. To apply for the position, all applicants must be full-time students in good standing with the university, have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 and have a class standing of sophomore or higher. This is a paid student position. All applications must include a letter of interest and resume of related experience and should be e-mailed no later than Feb. 10 to Adea Rogers at [rogersa@ecu.edu](mailto:rogersa@ecu.edu). You may also drop off your letter of interest and resume to 218 Mendenhall Student Center Mon - Fri from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

### Undergraduate Research Opportunities

As you know, undergraduate research is not only a priority for the Office of the University Honors Program, ECU Scholars and Undergraduate Research, but also an extremely important experience for students, particularly those wishing to continue to graduate or professional schools. It's not too early to begin thinking about projects you may wish to pursue with the assistance of an Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities Grant. This grant can help you pay for supplies or materials, project expenses and even a stipend for yourself. All you need is an original project, a faculty mentor and the application form. Applications are open to all interested undergraduates pursuing an independent research or inquiry-based learning project. Applications and guidelines are available through the Honors Program Home Page at [ecu.edu/honors](http://ecu.edu/honors); click on "Undergraduate Research." Application deadline is Feb. 15. Mark your calendars and open your minds.

## News Briefs

### State

#### Wilmington school has 22 languages spoken in students' homes

WILMINGTON, N.C. (AP) - The 22 foreign languages spoken in the homes of students at Pine Valley Elementary School may make it the multilingual capital of New Hanover County. In addition to Spanish and Arabic, each spoken in the homes of 29 students, other languages represented include Amharic, spoken in Ethiopia; Gujarati, an Indian language; Portuguese, Japanese and Korean. The variety of both languages and cultures can turn even a workout into a lesson about other countries. One rainy day, a first-grader became upset when told to make an X with his arms while working out to a kickboxing video. Teachers called the mother, who is Arabic. "She laughed and said the gesture meant bad luck," said Robbyn Novak, who teaches English as a second language at Pine Valley. "I don't get to travel a lot," Novak said. "This is my chance to see the world."

Frankie Aziz, a Wilmington shopkeeper who left the West Bank when he was a teenager, has lived in the area for 20 years and has six children, including two at Pine Valley. "This is a great place," he said. "I love the teachers and the system."

#### Sen. Ham Horton dies at age 74

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. (AP) - Sen. Hamilton Horton, a nine-term Republican legislator known for his impassioned speeches on the Senate floor going back 35 years, died Tuesday at the age of 74. Horton died at about 2 p.m. at his home, Senate officials said. Horton announced in December that he wouldn't run for another term because he had been diagnosed with cancer. The Winston-Salem attorney had a cancerous kidney removed in September but discovered later that

the illness had spread throughout his body.

Horton served two terms in the Senate beginning in 1971 but returned in 1995 for six more terms. He also was in the House for one term in 1969-70.

Known for his commitment to the environment and conservative principles of fiscal responsibility and individual freedoms, Horton likely will be remembered for his speechmaking ability. His oratory often left reporters and his fellow senators searching for a dictionary to fully digest his remarks.

On what would be the last working day at his Senate desk in August, Horton made an unsuccessful plea to stop passage of a state lottery, calling it "nothing but a fleecing of the people of North Carolina."

Horton, a Winston-Salem native, received his bachelor's and law degrees from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He also chaired the North Carolina Milk Commission in the mid-1970s and received awards for his commitment to outdoor preservation and conservation. He is survived by his wife, Evelyn, and a daughter, Rosalie.

Funeral arrangements were incomplete as of Tuesday evening.

### National

#### Kentucky Derby first: America's greatest race takes a sponsor

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) - The Kentucky Derby will have a sponsor for the first time, striking a five-year deal with a fast-food restaurant company that owns KFC, Taco Bell and Pizza Hut. Yum! Brands Inc., based in Louisville, becomes the first named sponsor of the Derby at Churchill Downs, and the race will be referred to as the Kentucky Derby, presented by Yum! Brands. It was announced Wednesday.

The Yum logo will appear under the famed twin spires for the Derby on May 6, and will also be shown on a sign above the starting gate, on the

jackets of the pony riders who escort the horses during the post parade, on television billboards and elsewhere around the track.

Yum! Brands, also the parent of Long John Silver's and A&W restaurants, will receive six 30-second television ads on NBC's Derby broadcast and two 30-second commercials on ESPN and ESPN2 during their coverage. "Through this sponsorship, potential investors will know of Yum! Brands and begin to associate the company with our leading restaurant brands," Yum chairman and CEO David Novak said in a statement.

Terms of the deal were not disclosed.

"As an outstanding corporate citizen in our hometown, Yum! Brands understands the importance of the Derby's history and tradition to the residents of our city and region, as well as to racing fans around the world," Churchill Downs president Tom Meeker said in a statement. The Derby, the first leg of racing's Triple Crown, carries a \$2 million purse. The deal will not affect the purse, but a portion of the sponsorship's revenues will go to race purses during the track's spring and fall racing meets.

#### Burger King plans to file for initial public offering

MIAMI (AP) - Burger King's parent company said Wednesday that it plans to sell shares in the fast-food company to the public for the first time in the chain's 52-year history in an attempt to better compete with rivals McDonald's Corp. and Wendy's International Inc.

Burger King Holdings Inc. plans to file with the Securities and Exchange Commission for an initial public offering in late February or early March, Chairman and CEO Greg Brenneman said in a statement.

"Our goal has always been to take Burger King public," he said. "We believe the transparency and stability in ownership offered by being a public company will benefit our employees and franchisees for years

### World

#### Iran's president lashes out at Bush, pledges to resist pressures of 'bully countries'

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) - In a speech to thousands of supporters Wednesday, Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad lashed out at the United States and vowed to resist the pressures of "bully countries" to constrain Tehran's nuclear program, a day before the U.N. nuclear agency is likely to vote to haul the country before the Security Council.

Speaking hours after President Bush's State of the Union address, the Iranian leader derided the United States, as a "hollow superpower" that is "tainted with the blood of nations" and said Tehran would continue its nuclear program. "Nuclear energy is our right, and we will resist until this right is fully realized," Ahmadinejad told the crowd in the southern Iran city of Bushehr, the site of Iran's only nuclear power plant.

"Our nation can't give in to the coercion of some bully countries who imagine they are the whole world and see themselves equal to the entire globe," he added.

The crowd responded with chants of "Nuclear energy is our right!"

Referring to Bush directly and the U.S.-led Iraq war, Ahmadinejad said: "Those whose hands are tainted with blood of nations and are involved in wars and oppression in any part of the world... we, hopefully, in the near future will put you on trial in courts that will be set up by nations."

Iran's defense minister also warned all countries Wednesday against considering an attack on Iran's nuclear installations. "Any attack against Iran's peaceful nuclear facilities will meet a swift and crushing response from the armed forces," Gen. Mostafa Mohammad Najjar said, according to the official Islamic Republic News Agency. The comments came after Bush

increased the pressure on Iran over its nuclear program, saying in his address Tuesday night "the nations of the world must not permit the Iranian regime to gain nuclear weapons." He said the United States "will continue to rally the world to confront these threats."

The International Atomic Energy Agency's 35-nation board of governors is to meet in Vienna, Austria, Thursday, and is expected to report Iran's nuclear program to the U.N. Security Council. The five permanent members of the Security Council agreed Tuesday that Iran should be hauled before the powerful body.

The top U.N. body has the power to impose economic and political sanctions, but none of those measures is immediately likely.

#### Egyptian officials call on Hamas to recognize Israel, disarm

CAIRO, Egypt (AP) - Two top Egyptian officials called on Hamas to recognize Israel, disarm and honor past peace deals Wednesday, a new sign Arab governments are pushing the militant group to moderate after its surprise election victory.

"Nobody will talk to them before they stop violence, recognize Israel and accept (peace) agreements, including the road map," the chief of Egyptian intelligence, Omar Suleiman, told journalists in Cairo.

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak's spokesman, Suleiman Awaad, also called on Hamas to recognize peace deals with Israel. Former Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat "was able to change his position. There is nothing that prevents smart leaders from changing their positions to behave accordingly," Awaad said.

Hamas stunned Israel, its allies and much of the Arab world with its overwhelming victory in Palestinian parliamentary elections last week and is under intense pressure from the international community including Arab nations to step back from its platform of the destruction of Israel.

### Murder from page A1

friends could write him messages.

Rod Johnson wrote, "Hey man I got U in my prayers. Good luck and may God B wit U."

Tupac Shakur and Eminem were Johnson's favorite rap singers and Johnson wrote a quote on Facebook by Eminem saying, "No more blood for oil, we got our own battles to fight on our own soil."

According to Facebook.com, Johnson graduated from Selma High School in 2005 and enjoyed reading books, politics, women,

partying and chilling. He also read war histories and went to Camp Lejeune's boot camp for young soldiers one summer.

"Everybody's still kind of dazed about the entire incident. We thought he would be something great someday," said Master Sgt. Randy Griffin, Johnson's ROTC leader according to *The Herald*.

Both teens are being charged with first-degree murder and appeared in court Jan. 9.

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

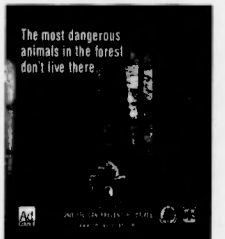
### Game from page A1

investigation. A federal grand jury has demanded information about Scientific Games from Black, who installed Geddings and also had a former aide who worked for the company.

If GTECH does not meet the deadlines for setting up the games, they will be met with fines that could reach a cost of \$400,000 per day. If the deadline is met, between \$20-\$30 million in additional revenue could be generated.

North Carolina is the last state on the East Coast to start a state-funded lottery.

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



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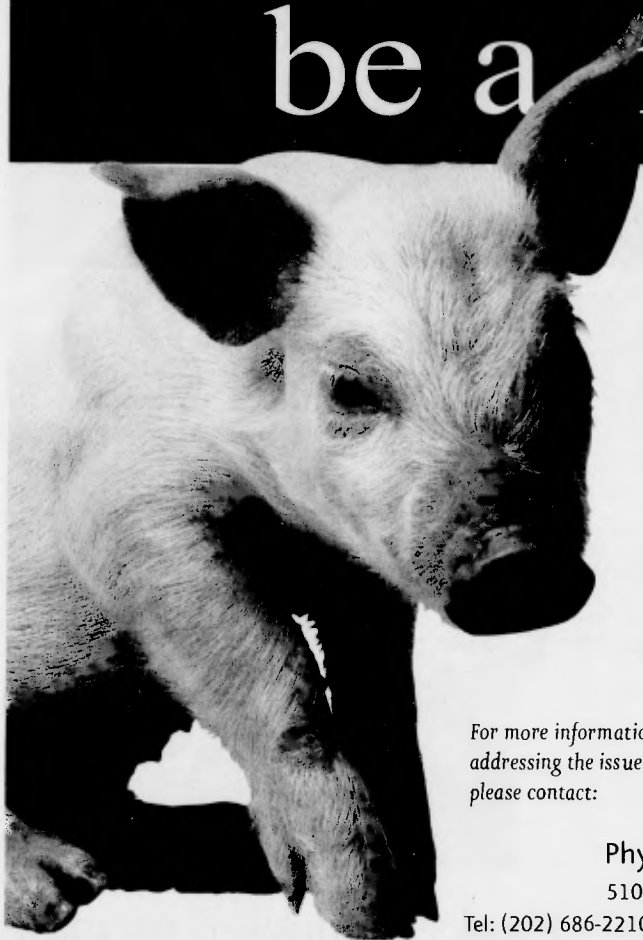
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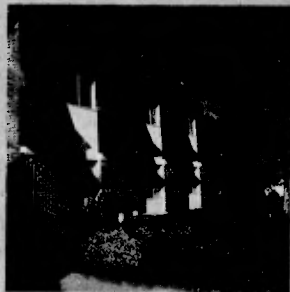
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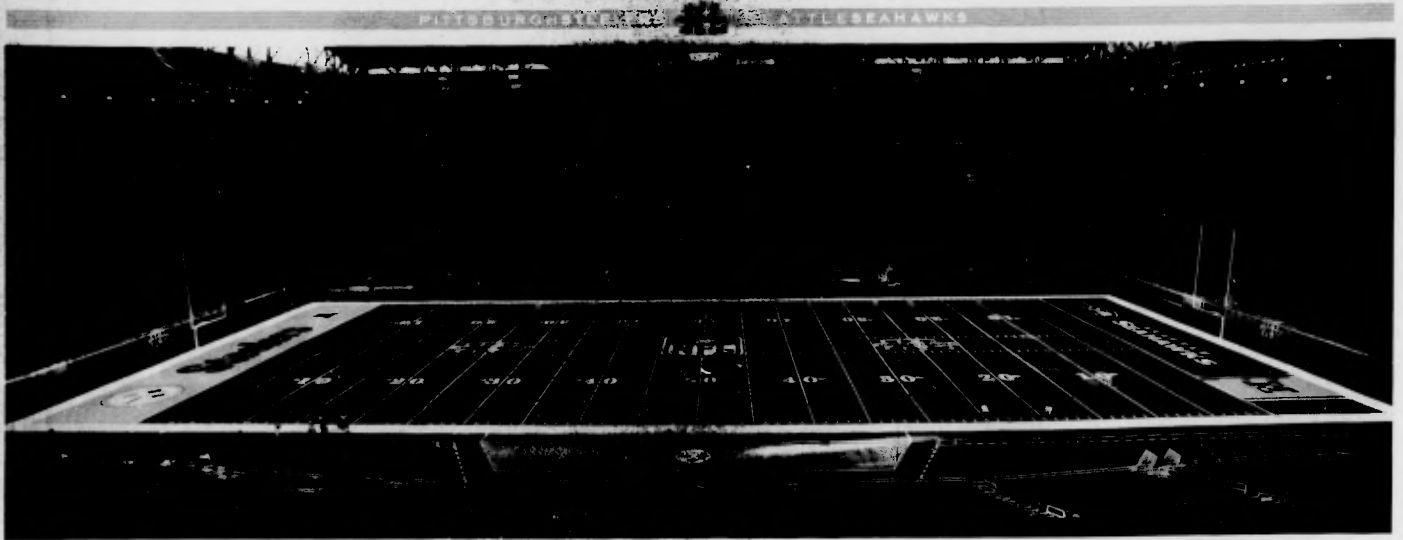
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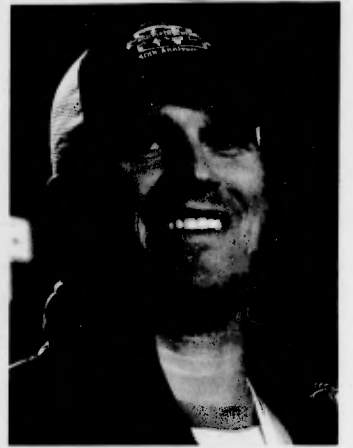
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Sunday, Feb. 5 • 6:30 p.m. EST • ABC  
(Playoff stats in parentheses)

Steelers	Seahawks
321.8 (333.0)	369.7 (363.5)
138.9 (115.3)	153.6 (154.5)
162.9 (217.7)	216.1 (209.0)
32 (5)	27 (2)
14 (1)	0 (0)
99 (10)	94 (9)
31:16 (33:19)	29:17 (34:48)
45 (11)	6 (57)
24/29 (3/3)	4/5 (18/25)
389 (86)	54 (452)

Steelers	Seahawks
256 (52)	271 (24)
284.0 (313.3)	316.8 (250.5)
86.0 (79.7)	94.4 (47.5)
198.0 (233.7)	222.4 (203.0)
15 (4)	3 (16)
47 (12)	5 (50)
27 (6)	3 (24)

## Steelers going for fifth ring

Cowher back for first time in years

BY RON CLEMENTS  
STAFF WRITER

Ten years ago Pittsburgh Head Coach Bill Cowher walked off the field at Sun Devil Stadium a loser following Super Bowl XXX when his Steelers lost to the Dallas Cowboys, 27-17. Cowher, then in just his fourth NFL season, was pretty sure he'd be back to the Super Bowl. He just didn't think it'd take 10 years.

Fast forward those 10 seasons and Cowher, now in his 14th season as Pittsburgh's head coach, has the Steelers back in the Super Bowl to face the NFC's best team, the Seattle Seahawks.

Cowher is hoping for different results this time around. In 1995, he had a veteran quarterback who had played mistake-free football most of the season in Neil O'Donnell, but then threw three interceptions in the Super Bowl — two to game MVP Larry Brown. In 2005, Cowher has a young quarterback who has played great in the postseason and has lost just one game away from the Steel City in 15 career outings.

Ben Roethlisberger has been near flawless in the playoffs, notably at Denver in the AFC Championship game. The second-year QB from Miami, Ohio, was 21-29 for 275 yards and two touchdowns as Pittsburgh converted four Jake Plummer turnovers into 21 points en route to a 34-17 dismantling of the AFC's No. 2 seed. A week earlier, Pittsburgh's pressuring defense confused and harassed Indianapolis' Peyton Manning and the AFC's top-seeded Colts.

Sunday, the Steelers will face the NFC's top seed, the Seattle Seahawks, and the NFL MVP running back Shaun Alexander. Pittsburgh jumped on both Indy and Denver early to force the Colts and Broncos to play from behind and take them out of their game plan. If the Steelers plan on beating the Seahawks, that strategy will have to play out once again in order to take the ball away from Alexander, who led the NFL with 1,880 rushing yards and an NFL record 28 touchdowns, and the explosive Seattle offense.

Both Pittsburgh and Seattle have powerful running games. The Steelers are, of course, led by Jerome "The Bus" Bettis, but were led statistically by second-year back from North Carolina Willie Parker. Parker ran for more than 1,200 yards this

season and was the Steelers' third-string back coming into the year, behind Bettis and former Philadelphia Eagle Duce Staley. While Bettis, who announced prior to the season that this would be his final season, is still the between-the-tackles punisher, Parker provides that burst of speed to break to the corners and has several runs this year of 40 yards or more.

While Parker has been relatively quiet in the playoffs, Bettis has played amazingly well. With the prospect of playing in the Super Bowl in his final game in his hometown, he is the only Steelers player find the end zone in all three of Pittsburgh's road wins.

Helping the running game has been the play of Roethlisberger. "Big Ben" was the AFC's highest rated passer in the playoffs and has done a tremendous job of distributing the football. No one Pittsburgh receiver has caught more than five balls in a game and only one, Cedrick Wilson, has eclipsed the century mark in the playoffs. Wilson had three grabs for 102 yards in the Wild Card win at Cincinnati. Roethlisberger has completed 68 percent of his passes for 680 yards and seven touchdowns passes to just one interception for a quarterback rating of 124.8 in the playoffs.

The offense for Pittsburgh, while having great game plans, has not had to do a whole lot because the Steel Curtain defense has given the offense a short field most of the time. Pittsburgh has forced six turnovers in three games and should have been seven if Troy Polamalu's interception of Peyton Manning would have stood. The Steelers have also recorded 11 sacks in those three wins, led by linebacker Joey Porter's three. Pittsburgh has gone on the road and shut down the AFC's top three teams and did so by taking apart three of the NFL's top six offenses.

The Steelers are the first six seed to reach the Super Bowl and the first team since the 1985 New England Patriots to win three road games en route to the Super Bowl. The '85 Patriots were routed by the Chicago Bears in Super Bowl XX, 46-10. That is a fate the 2005 Steelers would like to avoid in their attempt to win Pittsburgh the fifth Super Bowl title in franchise history and its first since 1979, when the 23-year-old Roethlisberger was still three years away from being born.

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

## 'Hawks overlooked no more

Seahawks finally in NFL title game

RON CLEMENTS  
STAFF WRITER

The 15-3 Seattle Seahawks enter Super Bowl XL as the NFC's top seed with an experienced head coach who has a Super Bowl title on his resume, the NFL MVP, a Pro Bowl quarterback and a defense that led the NFL in sacks in 2005 — and they're the underdog?

This is creating quite the chip on the collective shoulders of Seattle players. The NFC Champions are a four-point dog to the AFC's six-seed entering the playoffs, the Pittsburgh Steelers. The 14-5 Steelers won three straight road games to win the AFC and get to the Super Bowl.

Despite going 10-0 at home this year, including playoff demolitions of the Washington Redskins and Carolina Panthers, the Seahawks were tabbed as the underdog for Super Bowl XL in Detroit by Las Vegas oddsmakers.

Super Bowl XL will seem like a road game for the Seahawks, being that Detroit is just a couple-hour drive from Pittsburgh and Seattle has been tabbed as the "visiting" team by the NFL. Seattle will wear their home uniforms, however, because Pittsburgh Head Coach Bill Cowher requested that his team be allowed to wear their white visitor jerseys.

Seattle, playing in its first Super Bowl in its 30-year franchise history, has been the most overlooked team in the NFL for years, and for good reason. This year was the first season the Seahawks had won a playoff game since 1984. They were embarrassed in their last two playoff appearances — last year at home against St. Louis and in 2003 in overtime at Green Bay when quarterback Matt Hasselbeck said after winning the coin toss, "We want the ball and we're gonna score."

On the second play of the overtime period, Hasselbeck threw an interception to Green Bay's Al Harris, who returned it for a touchdown and a Packers' win.

This year, Hasselbeck has been a completely different player. He was the NFL's highest rated passer in the regular season and in the postseason. When league MVP running back Shaun Alexander left the game against Washington with a concussion, Hasselbeck led the way for the Seahawks, running in the deciding touchdown himself.

In his seventh NFL season, and fifth in Seattle, Hasselbeck has become one

of the NFL's best quarterbacks, and has done so very much under the radar. Consider that in 2003, he was left off the initial Pro Bowl roster despite throwing for over 3,800 yards with 26 touchdown passes to just 15 interceptions. Philadelphia's Donovan McNabb was originally selected ahead of Hasselbeck, despite throwing for just 16 touchdowns and 11 interceptions that year.

Alexander is another player that is overshadowed by other running backs. Even in college, Alexander's career at Alabama was secondary to that of 1999 Heisman Trophy winner Ron Dayne from Wisconsin. For the last three seasons, Alexander's brilliance was second-fiddle to San Diego's LaDainian Tomlinson. This year, Alexander finally broke out and entered the spotlight. He led the NFL in rushing yards with 1,880 and an amazing 5.1 yard-per-carry average as he set the NFL's single-season touchdown record with 28 to earn himself the league's MVP award.

With all the firepower the Seahawks have on offense, including two Pro Bowl offensive linemen, wide receivers Darrel Jackson and Peter Warrick and playmaking tight end Jeremy Stevens, it's the Seahawks defense that has been amazingly impressive in the postseason.

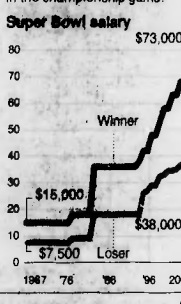
With two rookie linebackers and a veteran front four that includes former St. Louis Ram and Super Bowl winner Grant Wistrom, the Seahawks led the NFL in sacks this year with a mind-blowing 50 — an average of over three per game. The Seahawks have been outstanding at shutting down the opposing team's best player in the playoffs and stifling the run. Washington's Pro Bowl running back Clinton Portis managed just 41 yards against Seattle in its 20-10 defeat while the Carolina Panthers were limited to 36 yards of rushing while their playmaking receiver, Steve Smith, caught just five passes for 33 yards and was held out of the end zone by the Seattle "D."

Going against a team that mirrors itself with a young quarterback that doesn't make many mistakes, a punishing running game, a play-making tight end, a stifling defense and a veteran coaching staff with Super Bowl experience, Seattle has a tough task. But, then again, winning the Super Bowl is never easy. Mike Holmgren knows that. He's already won one.

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

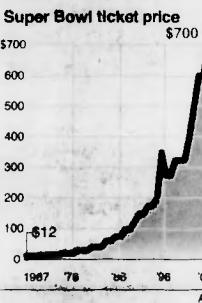
## Super payday

Win or lose, a player in the Super Bowl receives ample compensation for participating in the championship game.



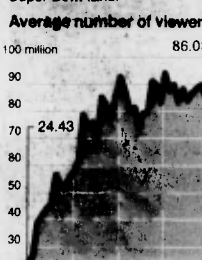
## That's the ticket

Cost of a ticket for prime seating at the Super Bowl has climbed steadily with time and the game's popularity.



## Captive audience

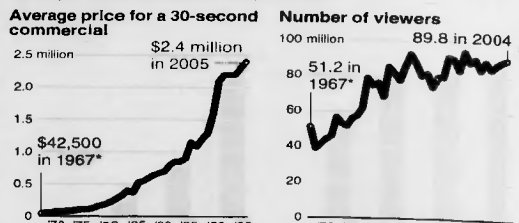
Companies pay premium prices to place their products before millions of attentive Super Bowl fans.



SOURCE: Nielsen Media Research

## Advertising's prime real estate

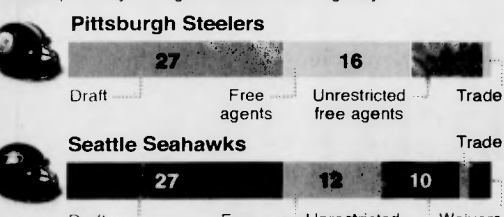
In 2005, the average cost of a 30-second commercial slot during the Super Bowl cost more than \$2 million.



SOURCES: Nielsen Monitor-Plus; Nielsen Media Research

## Building a winner

The Pittsburgh Steelers and Seattle Seahawks have built their teams primarily through drafts and free agency.



SOURCE: NFL.com

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Our View

Creating new paths shouldn't mean creating more mud

"Do not go where the path may lead - go instead where there is no path and leave a trail" - Ralph Waldo Emerson

I'm a fan of making my own way in the world, literally. Although rarely math-minded, I do hold in esteem the rule that says "the shortest distance between two points is a straight line." I'm typically strapped for time or in a hurry to get out of the cold, so I often find myself leaving one place and heading in a straight line toward my next destination.

Doing so requires crossing streets and intersections at odd angles, stepping over various tree roots or mulched areas and cutting through grass and various hedges, because unfortunately there isn't a nice, paved straight line that runs from my front door to Joyner Library.

I'm not sure the ECU lawn maintenance crews endorse Emerson's philosophy or my interpretation, however.

There are wonderful paved pathways all around campus, wide enough to accommodate several people at once and leave room to go around the slow walkers or move aside for bikers.

These paths regularly coincide with my straight-line treks, which is great because they aren't muddy.

What I don't understand is the new trend to walk in the same direction of the nice, paved paths on campus - just not on them.

Unlike randomly cutting across areas like the mall, which rarely leaves a trail, this new trend has begun to make its mark, but doesn't lead anywhere new.

The new paths (adjacent to the paved ones) are muddy and cause the nice, paved pathways to be muddy also because the grass that would help absorb excess water has been trampled into oblivion.

I encourage everyone to strike out, both literally and figuratively, and create new paths for themselves as the semester continues. But if there is already a nice, paved path to your destination of choice, make the most of it.

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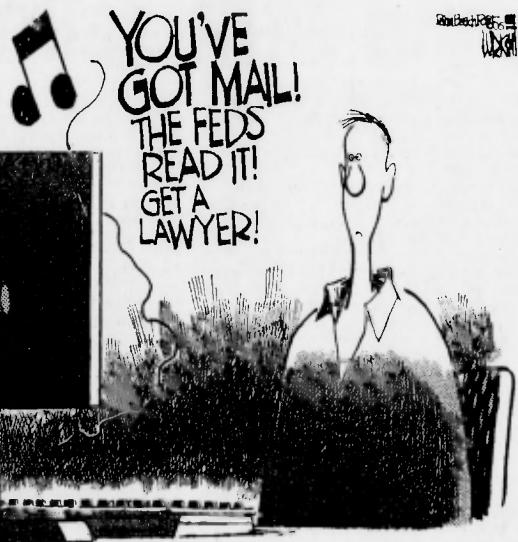
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Eric Gilmore takes a moment to apologize

Let me clarify...

ERIC GILMORE SENIOR WRITER

It's easy to sit behind a computer screen and take jabs at public figures. As a columnist and senior writer, it's my job to inform, report and sometimes question decisions of those in charge.

I want to publicly apologize for the way my words were misconstrued in Wednesday's column entitled "Recruiting rankings can't be judged on Signing Day." In the second to last paragraph, I accused former ECU head football coach John Thompson of having "a lack of ethical standards" involving recruiting players with character.

Little did I know that the comment would inflame a threat against TEC claiming a lawsuit by someone affiliated with Thompson. And that a concerned reader "hopes TEC has some evidence of unethical behavior because it's going to cost them..."

First, what exactly are ethics? According to Webster's Ninth New Collegiate Dictionary, ethics is "conforming to accepted professional standards of conduct." Many educators and coaches refer to Code of Ethics of the Education Profession as adopted by the 1975 NEA Representa-

tive Assembly. The document breaks down principles into two sections, commitment to the student and commitment to the profession. But aside from the 31-year-old document, ethics are governed by the various interpretations by individual coaches.

According to Ralph and Michael Sabcock, co-authors of Coaching: A Realistic Perspective, coaches who often practice a "lack of ethical standards" are ambitious and anxious to move up the coaching ranks on the basis of their team's won-loss record, they are afraid for their jobs or they are dishonest.

Regular citizens, educators and coaches' ethical principles fall into three different categories: high, low or none at all. So if Thompson was guided by a "lack of ethical standards," as previously stated, he would fall neither into the high nor none at all categories.

With that being said, the point I failed to clearly convey was about the type of players that Thompson recruited versus the athletes that current Head Coach Skip Holtz inked on Wednesday. Not that Thompson signed axe murders or serial killers, but only a select few tout the same resume in the character category as Holtz's recruits.

Cory Dowless, an offensive lineman from Franklinville, N.C.

is a member of the Beta Club and National Honor Society. Linebacker Nick Johnson from Charlotte will bring a 4.12 GPA into Greenville next year. Both were announced during the same press conference that Holtz revealed that five Thompson recruits were transferring while yet another - that makes three - is suspended.

Consider the recruiting philosophy of Holtz's coaching staff that prides itself on height, character and potential.

"It's not going to be one of those deals, okay, we just signed a bunch of great players, but in three years what happened to the rest of that class," said current recruiting coordinator Donnie Kirkpatrick following a press conference announcing the signees.

"[The new recruits] are going to be here and represent the university very, very well."

Does Thompson's recruiting philosophy make him unethical? No it does not, and it was not my intention to make any reader believe so, nor do I believe it myself. Did the now unemployed coach violate NCAA standards while at ECU? Not that I know of, and I certainly wasn't accusing him of any such behavior. Did I poorly choose my words? Yes, and for that I retract that specific clause in my Wednesday's Sports opinion article.

In My Opinion

(KRT) — When it comes to assessing the state of America's largest fighting force, Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld is an Army of one.

"The force is not broken," Rumsfeld insisted last week. "It's battle-hardened. It's not a peacetime force that has been in barracks or garrisons."

"It's not broken, it's battle-hardened" puts us in mind of the Monty Python skit about the man who brings a dead parrot back to the pet shop. "No, no, he's not dead, he's... he's restin'!" the shop owner says. "Remarkable bird, the Norwegian Blue."

Contrary to Rumsfeld's sanguine remarks, two studies released in January said that three years of combat in Afghanistan and Iraq, coupled with related recruiting and retention problems, have severely strained the Army. A study done for the Pentagon by military analyst Andrew Kreplnevich says the Army has been reduced to a "thin green line." Another study, done for congressional Democrats,

cited a risk of "breaking the force."

While those two studies were getting all the publicity, a copy of the Pentagon's latest "Quadrennial Defense Review" was being leaked to InsideDefense.com, a Web site for military insiders. In opaque bureaucratic language, the QDR comes to largely the same conclusions as the other two studies: "For the foreseeable future, steady state operations, including operations as part of a long war against terrorist networks, and the associated rotation base and sustainment requirements, will be the main determinant for sizing U.S. forces."

In other words, as long as the Army is going to rotate units in and out of Iraq, it may not be broken, but it's not going to be able to do much of anything else. Long term, the QDR says, the Pentagon better start planning for how it would deal with a "near peer" competitor, i.e., China, with a downsized U.S. force.

So that's three reports - one done by an independent analyst, one done for his political oppo-

nents and one done inside the Pentagon itself - that seem to dispute Rumsfeld's "don't worry, be happy" views.

Rep. Ike Skelton of Missouri, the top Democrat on the House Armed Services Committee, released a letter he wrote Jan. 26 to Rumsfeld. Skelton said the Army's worn-out equipment has placed the force "at strategic risk," and estimated the cost of replacing or repairing it at \$35 billion. The figure continues to grow, he said, and doesn't include the cost of modernizing the Army, which he said could exceed \$80 billion.

Finally, there is this assessment from Gen. George Casey, the Army's top commander in Iraq: "The forces are stretched... and I don't think there's any question about that."

Today's Army is a lethal fighting force. But how long it can stay that way, given Rumsfeld's lousy pre-war planning and non-existent post-war planning, is an open question. So is this: How does this man keep his job? Remarkable bird, this Don Rumsfeld.

Letters To The Editor

Dear Editor,

It is the year 2006 and we're still putting up with this racist crap! We should abolish black history month? America would not be what it is today without our contribution - our heroes, our diversity, our inventions, our marches, our bloodshed, our sweat, our chains, our leaders and our white followers. America was built on the backs of black men, women and children.

"BHM a ploy to distract black people?" It is not one month put aside to say this all you are in a month. It's a monument - a torch - passed from year to year, generation to generation to say thank you for all your accomplishments, for all your struggles,

all your sacrifices, your restless spirit that would not give up in the face of adversity.

The words of Morgan Freeman were taken out of context. "You cannot regulate all that we are in a month," but you can make sure that all we've been through is not forgotten by setting aside a month.

"They must, as a people, work to reduce the behaviors and attitudes that perpetuate negative stereotypes." It's the ignorance of people like you that keeps these stereotypes going. You cannot judge a whole race of people on what a few do.

"The past is the past." The past is my future, the past is my present.

Every time I listen to the stories my grandmother tells of her grandmother being beaten with a rod 80 times for taking a piece of meat to feed her child, then having salt rubbed in the wounds, I am reminded of how far we have come.

The past is my tomorrow when I have to watch a movie in class to remind me of the harsh realities that blacks had to suffer at the hands of the white man.

The past is my reality when I have to read this article to remind me there will always be racism and discrimination.

Patricia Edwards Senior Business Management

Pirate Rant

The article about "First Love" yesterday was decadent and pathetic, containing unrealistic ideals because of dumb movies and books. This amounts to total confusion to females. For instance, a rant complained about not going on "traditional dates." That's your darn fault. Why? It's because you place all those guys who have done so, or who would, in the "friends" zone.

If Social Security cards are so important (i.e. getting a job, getting driver's license, etc.) then why in the world are they made of paper? Shouldn't they be plastic?!

For the people wondering where the stereotypes for sororities/fraternities came from, I have solved the mystery. You guys pick and choose carbon copies to join you. When I was dressed up, I got plenty of fliers, which I promptly recycled, and when I was dressed in sweat pants, I didn't receive one. Hmmmm, imagine that!

To the girl who wants guys to take her to dinner and a movie. What is this, 1951?

I am sick of hearing people talk crap about North Carolina. No one put a gun to your head and made you come here. So if it's that bad, then please go back up north where you came from!

To the girl who said, "it's not a big deal" about asking for a girl's number. If it's not a big deal then why are all girls scared to ask a guy for his number.

How could that beautiful girl on Tuesday's paper be depressed?

I am so sick of the drunk people that get off the downtown express bus at River Pointe on the weekends and cannot just walk quietly back to their apartment. I am tired of waking up at all hours hearing people talking, fighting, hollering, shooting fireworks outside my window... And by the way, I see you peeing behind the dumpsters... you idiots.

Maybe the reason so many doctors are considered cold, arrogant and rude is because so many of them have neglected their early composition classes in which you were supposed to learn effective communication as evidenced in the *New York Times* and the *News & Observer*.

OMG! We got an awesome recruiting class. I love Terry Holland and Skip Holtz. Start planning the trip to the Bowl game now.

To the SRC whiner. If you don't like all the people using the SRC, maybe you can go somewhere else. And if you don't like "older people" being there, get over it. Can't wait until you interview for a job with an "older person."

To the person who is working on their pre-med biology degree: reading the paper is a way to get news. It's a fact of life, not just English class.

Why does the staff at ECU, the people who are here to assist students, have to be so grouchy to those students all the time? I know you are inundated day in and day out with questions, but that's what you are paid for. We pay good money for our education and all the services that go along with it. Smile once in awhile!

It's 40 degrees outside. Let's leave the thermostat on 68 at least. I mean, it's the winter.

"Support Our Troops" stickers and LiveStrong bands are not a fashion trend, they have a meaning behind them!

Pre-med student, not only do you need that English class, but you also need to hire an English tutor. You obviously haven't mastered the grammatical skills that are usually attained after first grade. I don't want a doctor who is ignorant of current events and can't even use proper grammar in a *Pirate Rant*. Oh, and it goes without saying that you should give up on the medical school idea right now. Perhaps a job at McDonald's would better suit you. Wait... nevermind, that career requires too much use of the English language.

The employees at most of the food spots on campus, especially The Galley, have the worst attitudes around! If they don't like serving people, then find a new job!

People, is it really so hard to re-rack your weights in the gym when you're done?

I wear Duke shirts around campus because I am not only a lifelong Duke fan, but also a Duke graduate. Unless - and until - ECU wins a trophy in anything, back off.

I would enjoy presidential speeches much more if there weren't a 30 second pause for congress to give a standing ovation after every statement Bush made.

Did you know there is a higher rate of cancer for teachers in the Bate Building than any other building on campus? It is actually considered a "sick" building. Have fun business students.

The hardest thing is to watch someone you love so much love someone else.

Anyone who has ever eaten at West End Dinning Hall knows Ms. Terry. She is the sweetest lady you will ever meet. A person can live forever, and he will never come across someone with as much character, and as much love for us students as Ms. Terry.

OMG, pick up your feet when you walk... your shoes cannot be that heavy! And don't even try to say that it's because you have on clogs/stip-ons because that is BS!

The computer labs are where I go to do work for school, not socialize with my friends. Please be courteous and shut up when other people are trying to work.

Why do people complain that the meals on campus are not good? The dining halls are not always good but the new "pirate meals" give you good healthy choices to eat. Fast food is not good - use your meals because you already paid for them.

If I hear one more person at an apartment complex office tell me that my pet(s) are going to cause damage and I cannot have them I will snap! Or worse, they tell me I can have them but then force me to pay a God-awful amount of money as a non-refundable deposit. If I have to pay 400 dollars to keep my pet(s) (who are a part of the family), then I might as well let them excrete all over the place a day before I hand my keys back in so I can get my money's worth!

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.

# CLASSIFIEDS

Page A6

THURSDAY February 2, 2006

## FOR RENT

2 BD 2 Bath Wyndham Cir. c/cie Duplex Available June 1 and Aug 1 \$625.00/month 321-4802 New. ly deco. rat. ed Cathe. dral Ceil. ings Nice Land. lord Great Price!

One two Brs. on-site management maintenance Central heat air 6, 9, 12 month leases Water Cable included ECU bus Wireless Internet pets dishwasher disposals pool laundry (252) 758-4015

Sublease Feb '06 thru July '06 \$387 a month all inclusive very negotiable. I will pay application fee. Call 781-254-6031 for more details!

Beat This, No parking fees, No parking hassle, Walk to class, downtown or to the rec. center, 2 bed 1.5 bath duplex available now, short term lease accepted. Buccaneer Village call 561-7368

Room for Rent E. 3rd Street Duplex 1 Bedroom 1 Bath \$250/Month Utilities Included Available Immediately Call Brendan 410-608-4732

2 Rooms for Rent Pirates Cove Phase II - Fully Furnished - W/D Available Now Contact Nicole 919-452-3849 - NLH0320@mail.ecu.edu \$387/month utilities included

## ROOMMATE WANTED

Roommate Wanted for Off-Campus House: Laid-back, but serious, student roommate wanted to share 3 bedroom home. Pet- and smoker- friendly preferred. One bedroom and shared living areas for rent available immediately at \$400/month includes utilities. One month's security deposit and lease application required. Call 252-480-1668 for Shen or 252-599-7275 to speak to Evan. Owner is a licensed NC Realtor.

## HELP WANTED

Childcare needed for infant formal exp. required email exp. and contact info to mcadams@mail.ecu.edu

Bartenders wanted! Up to \$250/day. No experience necessary. Training provided. Call (800) 965-

6520. ext. 202

Greenville Recreation & Parks Department is recruiting part-time youth soccer coaches for the indoor soccer program. Applicants must possess a good knowledge of soccer skills and have the ability and patience to work with youth. Applicants must be able to coach young people ages 12-18 in soccer fundamentals. Hours are from 6:45 pm to 9:30 pm, Monday-Thursday with some weekend coaching. Flexible hours according to class schedules. This program will run from March 7 to mid May. Salaries start at \$6.25 per hour. Apply at the City of Greenville, Human Resources Department, 201 Martin L. King Jr. Dr., Greenville NC 27834. For more information, please contact the Athletic Office at 329-4550, Monday through Friday, 10 am until 7 pm.

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

Background singers and musicians needed for studio recording: cellist violinists, trumpet player, electric bass player. Call Greg 378-4325. Web designer/programmer needed. Call Allison, 378-4324.

\*\*\*\*\* Tutors Needed \*\*\*\*\* Looking for some extra money (- best opportunity on campus!) and a way to improve academically? Are you at least a sophomore with a 3.0 or better GPA? Become a tutor or mentor for the Office of Student Development-Athletics. We employ tutors in all subject areas and levels (1000-5999). Undergraduate students are paid \$7/hour and graduate students are paid \$10/hour. If this sounds like the job for you, please contact Jennifer Bonner at 737-4553 for further information.

## GREEK PERSONALS

Kappa Delta would like to thank Pi Kappa Phi for an awesome billionaires and trophy wife social! We should do it again soon!

Thanks to the brothers f Sig Ep for a fun social! -Delta Zeta

Attention all Greeks: Dollar Night Every Thursday at Cafe Caribe \$3 Admission. Nicest Restrooms Downtown. Plenty of Room to Socialize. Come Check it Out!!

Gamma Sigma Sigma would like to thank Theta Chi for having us over Thursday night. We had a great time!

The sisters of Alpha Xi Delta would like to extend their appreciation and support to the sisters of Kappa Delta. Thanks for all you do!

Delta Zeta would like to thank PIKA for a great my tie social!

## OTHER

Spring Break Panama City From \$199! Beachfront Rooms at Boardwalk, Holiday Inn! Free Party Package, Food at MTV Party Tent! Bahamas Cruise \$299. Daytona \$179. Cancun, Acapulco, Nassau \$599! SpringBreakTravel.com 800-678-6386.

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6+ www.SpringBreakDiscounts.com or www.LeisureTours.com or 800-838-8202.

Spring Break Ski Trip -Killington VT for only \$699! Includes transportation, condo, lift tickets. March 11-18. For more info go to www.skiouting.com or call 327-8101.

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CAN YOU BE THERE FOR YOUR OLDER PARENT WITHOUT ACTUALLY HAVING TO BE THERE?



One out of five adults finds themselves as the designated "caregiver" for a loved one who can no longer manage alone. This role can often snowball, weighing heavily on you as you try to cope with the demands of caregiving. There may be services and organizations right in your parent's neighborhood that can help when you're not around. The outcome is better care for your parent, and less anxiety for you. Visit www.familycaregiving101.org and discover a world of support, answers and advice - for both of you.



From the National Family Caregivers Association and the National Alliance for Caregiving with the generous support of Blue Cross of North Carolina.

Plenty of space to socialize • Nicest restrooms downtown

Tonight \$3 admission w/student ID

# Dollar Night

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# Black History Month

a celebration of events

Poetry Slam featuring HBO's Def Poet J Ivy  
February 2nd - 7:00 pm in Wright Auditorium

Famed Author Craig Marberry  
February 15th - 7:30 pm in Room 244 Mendenhall Student Center

Tribute to the late Dr. Andrew A. Best  
February, 21st - 6:30 pm in the Murphy Center

African American Reading Circle  
February 23rd - 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm Ledonia Wright Cultural Center Gallery

J Ivy  
Arrangements for all talent were made through Sphinx Management Group, a National Association for Campus Activities Member

Craig Marberry  
In February  
For more information contact:  
Ledonia Wright Cultural Center  
Bloxtown House,  
Greenville, NC 27858-4353 USA  
Office: 252.328.6495  
Fax: 252.328.0370  
www.ecu.edu/lwcc

Craig Marberry is author of *Cuttin' Up: Wit and Wisdom from Black Barber Shops*, *Crowns: Portraits of Black Women in Church Hats*, and *Spirit of Harlem: A Portrait of America's Most Exciting Neighborhood*. A former television reporter, Marberry has written for The Washington Post and Essence magazine. He's a graduate of Morehouse College and earned his Master's from the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism.

Individuals requesting accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) should contact the Department for Disability Support Services at least 48 hours prior to the event at (252) 328-6799 voice/(252) 328-0899 TTY.

Ledonia Wright Cultural Center

Page E  
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## Campus Confessions:

I fantasize about my ex-girlfriend all the time.

I got caught making out by my girlfriend's parents at the movie theater last week. They were making out, too.

I pierced my penis on a dare and now it is infected to a very disgusting, unhealthy degree.

I sing "It's Raining Men" loudly in the car when I am driving to work ... and I am a straight man.

I have a massive crush on one of the West End lunch ladies.

Last year I had to steal a toothbrush from the student store because I was out of money and decline.

I like the smell of mothballs and gasoline.

I hate my sister because she is too much like me and it upsets me to be around ... me.

If I don't shower a certain way, in a certain order, I have to start over. It takes me at least 40 minutes to shower.

I accidentally had sex with my friend's girlfriend before we lived together. It was an accident because she is my new roommate's sister.

I'm really lazy. I hardly ever walk to class. I just take the bus everywhere.

All I want in life is to get it on in the dark rooms in Jenkins.

My roommate is really sweet, but I can't stand the fact that she hardly ever leaves the room. Let's get out and do something for once.

I constantly get caught singing along to the music in my car.

To the guy who came into the computer lab I work in and who I saw walking on campus a few days later, our eyes have only met twice and we've never really spoken, but I haven't been able to stop thinking about you. Everything about you, from your "I don't give a damn" clothes, to your short beard, to your gorgeous eyes, makes me melt. I can't wait to see you again.

How about I was playing two guys, and it turns out they know each other ... oops.

I'm a guy and I have a crush on my roommate ... he's a guy, too.

One day I want to grow up to be a stripper.

Sometimes I sing the "Happy Birthday" song to myself two times while I wash my hands just to be sure they are clean.

## Recipes:

### Ignorance Is Bliss Chili

- 1 pound London broil, diced
- 1 pound center cut pork loin, diced
- 3 slices of bacon, chopped
- 4 ounces ground sausage
- 2 cups coarsely chopped onion
- 2 cups finely chopped onion
- 2 cups coarsely chopped green or red pepper
- 5 tablespoons chopped garlic
- 1 small jar medium-hot chilies
- 3 (6 oz.) cans of tomato paste
- 1 (28 oz.) can crushed tomatoes
- 1 medium can of pinto beans
- 1 cup barbecue sauce
- 1 teaspoon hot sauce
- Juice of 1 lime
- 1 tablespoon of molasses
- 1/4 cup butter
- 2 tablespoons peanut oil - divided
- 3 cups water

### Dry spices:

- 1/4 teaspoon powdered cloves
- 1/2 teaspoon pepper
- 1 teaspoon sage
- 1 teaspoon basil
- 1/2 red pepper flakes
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1 tablespoon cilantro
- 4 tablespoons chili powder

Add one tablespoon peanut oil to a five quart pot over medium-high heat. Add the butter and the coarsely chopped onion and cook until caramelized. Once caramelized, add the beef, pork, bacon and sausage, stirring occasionally until browned. Add the lime juice, stir and reduce the heat to medium. Add the garlic and two cans of tomato paste, stir, and let simmer for 20 minutes. Increase the heat to medium-high, stir in remaining peanut oil, finely chopped onion, red or green peppers, chilies, tomato paste, crushed tomatoes, barbecue sauce, all dry spices and three cups of water. Stir, cover, and let cook for 20 minutes. Reduce heat to medium-low, stir and cook for 40 minutes stirring often. Increase heat to medium, stir in pinto beans, hot sauce and molasses, cover and cook for 30 minutes. Serve with choices of sour cream, cheddar cheese, chopped onion or fresh horseradish.

# 'Annapolis': One big shipwreck

*This movie just doesn't work, no matter what*

SCOTTY WILLIAMS  
SENIOR WRITER

Before it hit theaters, *Annapolis*' previews gave it the look of a middle-notch movie about making it in the harshest of harsh environments. The angry looks of Tyrese Gibson and the stone cold stares of James Franco indicated this movie was going to be an exercise in beating the odds. It had the typical military movie sneer, the angry words and clenched teeth that said this movie would let the world know that not only does hell exist, but it's located in Annapolis, Md. Hell did exist in this movie, but it was in the eyes of viewers who felt tortured by the undying confusion - "What kind of movie is this?"

*Annapolis* is one big disappointing package. I use the word package because this is not a navy movie. It's one big annoying conglomeration of romance, boxing and a few misplaced rank stripes.

Franco is Jake Huard, a young riveter who seeks to fulfill a lifelong dream (or a promise to his mother, they hint at both)

by attending the prestigious United States Naval Academy in Maryland. Huard barely makes it in and deals with all the trouble of being a new recruit in the navy - commanding officers with ego problems, an interesting mix of roommates, intense physical conditioning and mental demands. Gibson is Midshipment Lt. Cole, a high-ranking officer (and Marine as luck would have it) who has it in for Huard. Luckily for him, another high-ranking officer is falling for him as he prepares to take on Cole in a boxing tournament. We'll get to that little problem later.

This entire newspaper could be filled by my qualms with this movie. First, I've seen more military accuracy and realism in "Looney Tunes." When I think about the writing of this movie, I imagine director Justin Lin in a room with the writers asking,

"This guy Gibson's a big, bad naval guy, but could we make him a Marine, too? Can we put an overweight fatso in this prestigious, selective Academy? I've got to have a fat guy!"

The aforementioned "fat guy" is Vicellous Reon Shannon, and he honestly puts on a great performance. His character has more heart than Huard. It's clear



Alli, played by Jordana Brewster, inspects Jake Huard, played by James Franco, in the film 'Annapolis'.

that Shannon's character was cast to be comic relief, but he ends up more human and with more emotion than the stone-faced Franco. This is somewhat confusing. Speaking of confusion, this movie devotes so much of the storyline to a boxing tournament, you could swear you're watching

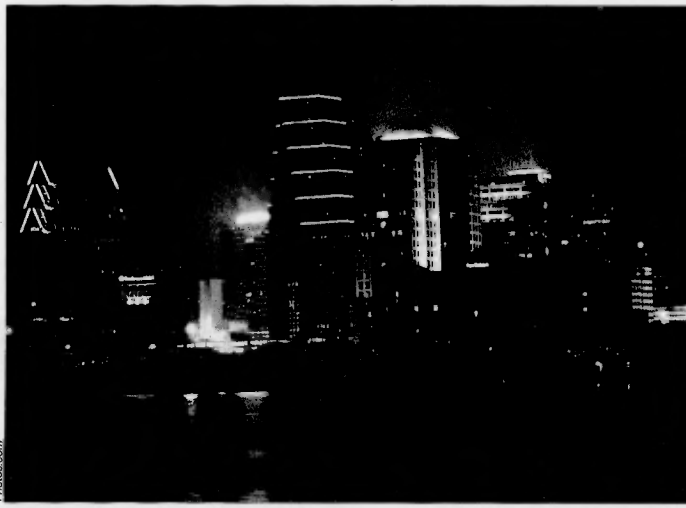
Rocky Balboa with a high and tight haircut swinging at a bigger, more muscular Apollo Creed. This movie's major problem (if one can stand out among the rest) is it cannot figure out what kind of movie it wants to be.

If it is trying to be a boxing movie, it deserves to be clubbed

to the canvas. The boxing scenes are a flurry of blue and red gloves. After seeing quality boxing in movies like *Cinderella Man* and *Million Dollar Baby*, this just doesn't stand a fighting chance (yes, I went there with a pun).

see ANNAPOLIS page B2

## Austin: Live music capital of the world



Austin, the capital of Texas, has many claims to fame other than "a place MTV's 'Real World' was filmed.

### The loudest city in Texas

AARON BORRIGO  
STAFF WRITER

In our soon to be recurring series of featured music cities, this week's title takes us to the great state of Texas. The capital city of Austin boasts not only the biggest rotunda building in America, but also the moniker "The Live Music Capital of the World." The Capitol building is even bigger than the Capitol building in Washington, D.C.

Also equally as impressive are the many programs supported by the Austin city government in order to display the musical talents of the local area. This includes a music commission that was created by the city council to deal with everything related to the music industry, Web sites and even a musician hiring service to play functions of all kinds. Corporations ordering bands to play their functions are com-

monplace in this city. This may seem a bit odd to most, but to Austinites, this is the way we embrace our name. The city of Austin created the Austin music channel as an economic development project to showcase local music and musicians and display the diversity found throughout the city.

Austin Music Partners launched Music and Entertainment TV Oct. 1, 2005 on channel 15 on both Time Warner and Grande Communications stations. If TV isn't your deal because you are more of an outdoors type, then the Austin music festivals might be more to your liking. Even places such as Zilker Park host events year-round, not to mention the city club venues that hold entertainment.

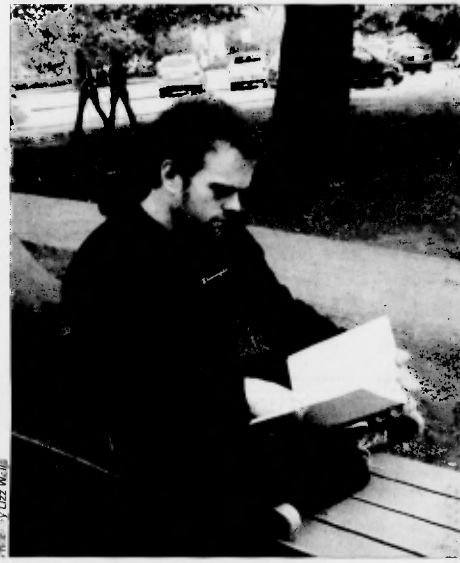
Another outdoor music fest, called "Live from the Plaza," is a music concert that happens during lunchtime at city hall every Friday between April and October, completely free of charge. As a side note, for the

folks in Austin who can't make the concert, the shows are aired in their entirety on Austin channel 6.

Austin holds more music venues per capita than hot spots such as Memphis, Las Vegas, Nashville, Los Angeles and New York City. These venues have inspired the sounds of punk, ska, reggae, blues, jazz, funk, bluegrass, world, alternative, classical and country.

Famous Texan musicians and groups include Willie Nelson, Janis Joplin, Lyle Lovett, Stevie Ray Vaughan, Selena and ZZ Top, who all have done the Austin scene. The Austin City Limits Music Festival is a music and art festival in Austin, typically held on a Friday, Saturday and Sunday toward the end of September. The festival is produced by the Austin City Limits television show and Waterloo Music and takes place in the aforementioned Zilker Park. Lastly, South By Southwest is

see AUSTIN page B2



An ECU student is taking time out of his busy schedule to read.

## Vital student reading

Bob Roth's book proves to be useful

MARIANNE BARROW  
FEATURES WRITER

College can be both exhausting and exhilarating for students. It's a period of time when you learn more about yourself, both scholastically and personally. This transition can sometimes be more difficult than we would like, but with author Bob Roth's help, the ride is much smoother.

Roth is the founder and current president of Practical Services Corporation - a consulting company that trains clients who are interested in assistance with leadership, idea generation, organizational effectiveness and much more. With more than 25 years of experience in management and human resources for major

corporations, Roth has written an extremely beneficial book for young adults everywhere.

The *4 Realities of Success During and After College* is a clear guide for students who are pursuing the career of their choice while attending school. The author's four realities are as follows: you can be more successful in college, it takes an effective job search to land the job you want, you can be more effective in your first job and most importantly, going out on your own shouldn't be a rude awakening.

For the first reality, Roth gives suggestions on early college planning which involve choosing the right school and following your own plan of action. These key suggestions are crucial to freshmen just starting their college

see BOOKS page B4

## Ten Tenors embark on their 'Larger Than Life' tour



The Ten Tenors will perform Jan. 31 - Feb. 5 at Raleigh Memorial Auditorium. For more information, visit ticketmaster.com.

### Aussie group to tour the United States

JOHN BOSCO  
STAFF WRITER

The Ten Tenors kick off a tour for their new album, *Larger Than Life*, in Raleigh this month and are making quite a buzz for themselves.

For those unfamiliar with the Ten Tenors, they are an Australian vocal group that performs in a variety of musical styles ranging from opera to pop to rock and beyond. They have performed alongside artists like Rod Stewart, Andrea Bocelli, Alanis Morissette and Willie Nelson.

Their international career started in Germany in 2001, when all of their 48 shows at two distinguished cabaret venues sold out. In addition to an amazing kick-start to a touring career, this made the Ten

Tenors the fastest selling act in the history of both venues.

Since then, they have toured internationally at sold-out venues in Europe, Asia and Australia. In 2002, they made a guest appearance at the Eurovision Grand Prix in Germany before an audience of nearly 15,000 people, not to mention that more than 20 million people were watching on television. To date, they have performed on three continents and have been seen by more than an estimated 77 million people. They exhibit a wide range of styles and take on the vocal challenges of everything from ABBA to opera.

This year, they embark on a North American tour and will be performing at Raleigh Memorial Auditorium in early February. Their new CD, *Larger Than Life*, was released just last year on Rhino Records.

They have received praise

for their live performances - even landing a public television broadcast throughout the U.S. and Canada last December of their performance in Brisbane, Australia. But their tour isn't all that's been getting notice - *Larger Than Life* has been making quite the buzz for itself, too.

Their previous CD, *One Is Not Enough*, climbed the European pop charts to the top 10 and in 2003 they were asked by Disney to record the *Jungle Book 2* theme song "Jungle Rhythm."

Not so surprisingly, the band is made up of 10 members. They are Craig Atkinson, Shannon Brown, Drew Graham, Craig Hendry, Dion Kidd, Liam McLachlan, Dion Molinas, Stewart Morris, Todd Strike and Jason Turnbull.

While each member has their own story, all of them have a very strong back-

see TENORS page B4

**Annapolis** from page B1

After all, this movie cannot call itself a navy movie, otherwise lawyers should get involved from here. That's what was marketed, but not what was delivered. People who have gone through the experience of the U.S. Naval Academy will either roll in the aisles with laughter or outright walk away and ask for their money back. For all you feminists, you'll also be enthralled to hear that the leading woman in this movie, Jordana Brewster, is a high-ranking officer who's just weak enough to

fall for a first-year plebe and treat him with kid gloves through the movie. I continually asked myself how this woman would've made her rank, with her getting a soft spot for Huard and all.

There's not one time in the movie where Brewster's character does what a higher-ranking officer would do and wield a little bit of that power she holds. Instead of a strong female character, this woman is a pushover with a soft spot. With her actions, it would've made more sense to cast this character

with the same rank as Huard instead of being a superior officer. It would've made a lot more sense than making her the cool commander.

Franco's leading man abilities need some more polish, because his character is supposed to undergo a change. Huard in the beginning is the same as Huard in the end, just with a few more pounds. Gibson's acting is better than Franco's, but only because Gibson just had to play the tough guy, without much dynamic. Gibson's becoming more type-

cast with each movie, by the way. The movie's biggest successes are the hearty chuckles certain situations will render. Shannon's jokes and one-liners are great, and you'll genuinely get a belly laugh from some of the moments. Other than those few chuckles, this movie won't give you much to smile about. You'll be too busy scratching your head.

**Grade: D**

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

**Austin** from page B1

a world famous festival hosted in March which attracts about 1,000 acts from around the world to play on 50 or so stages over four days. Also to be found are independent film screenings that go on for about a week.

So to the person in a recent post who lessened the value of music and movies as being "unimportant," think of it this way - my hometown is Austin, whose one music festival brings about 75,000 people together in Austin to have a good time. Music reminds me of my home, as it does for

many people. Perhaps, only for a moment, to escape the constraints of simple minded cattle who can't enjoy anything on their own and therefore drop deuces on anyone who does. However, people can have their own opinions, just as I have mine. The power of music should be kept alive by everyone and for everyone. So fight the toxic rebuttal of these intellectual pigmies and enjoy yourself and enjoy each other.

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

**Movie picks** ▶ New

- ★ Outstanding
- Worthy effort
- So-so

	Chicago Tribune	Dallas Morning News	Detroit Free Press	Miami Herald	N.Y. Daily News	Philadelphia Inquirer	San Jose Mercury News	Seattle Times
Glory Road (PG)	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Hoodwinked (PG)	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Last Holiday (PG-13)	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
▶ Looking ... (PG-13)	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Match Point (R)	■	★	★	★	★	★	★	★
Mrs. Henderson (R)	★	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
▶ The New World (PG-13)	★	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
▶ Underworld ... (R)	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■

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**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13**  
AT 5:00PM -  
MENDENHALL MULTIPURPOSE ROOM

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20**  
AT 5:00PM -  
MENDENHALL SOCIAL ROOM

**PLEASE PLAN TO COME AND VOICE YOUR OPINION!!!**

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Wear it, feel it, live it. The Go Red For Women movement gives women the power to significantly reduce their risks of heart disease and live a long, healthy life. So put your hand over your heart - and make a promise to be heart healthy.

For more information contact Campus Wellness at 328.5770



## Student Homecoming Chair

The Homecoming Committee is currently looking for a person to fill the 2006 position of Student Homecoming Chairperson.

The position calls for the applicant to:

- Oversee seven (7) subcommittees
- Manage a \$19,000 budget and process expenditures in a timely fashion
- Chair all student Homecoming bi-weekly (Spring) and weekly Fall meetings

To apply for the position, all applicants must:

- Be a full-time student in good standing with the University
- Have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5
- Have a class standing of sophomore or up

This is a paid student position. All applications must include a letter of interest and resume of related experience and emailed no later than February 10, 2006 to Charlie Brown, [brownchar@ecu.edu](mailto:brownchar@ecu.edu). You may also drop off your letter of interest and resume to 239 Mendenhall Student Center, M-F, 8-5pm.

**You can make a difference!**

## Student Union Events

### Bingo

Tuesday, Feb 14th @ 9pm  
In Mendenhall's Destination 360

**spectrum**

### Open Mic

Wednesday, Feb 8th @ 7pm  
In Mendenhall's Pirate Underground  
Free Food

**popular  
entertainment**

### Jazz at Night

Friday, Feb 10th @ 8pm  
In Mendenhall's Great Rooms

**spectrum**

### Artwork of Diane Banks

February 6th- March 3rd  
In Mendenhall's 2nd floor gallery  
Reception Thursday February 9th  
5:30-7:30pm

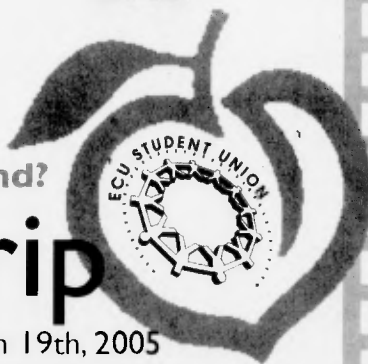
**visual  
arts**

Is Georgia on your mind?

## Atlanta Trip

Tuesday, March 14th—Sunday, March 19th, 2005  
Tickets start at \$150

Purchase a ticket at Mendenhall's Central Ticket Office  
or for more information call 328-4715.



## films

### MERCURY FILM

#### STAY

Thu Feb 2nd @ 9:30pm  
Fri Feb 3rd @ 7pm & Midnight  
Sat Feb 4th @ 9:30pm  
Sun Feb 5th @ 7pm

### BLOCKBUSTER FILM

#### SAW II

Thu Feb 2nd 7pm  
Fri Feb 3rd @ 9:30pm  
Sat Feb 4th @ 7pm & Midnight  
Sun Feb 5th @ 3pm

### SPECIAL FEATURE

#### DIRTY DANCING

Fri Feb 10th @ Midnight

All movies are shown in  
Mendenhall's Hendrix Theatre.

### UPCOMING FILMS

**NORTH COUNTRY**

**PROOF**

**WALK THE LINE**

**JAR HEAD**

**A HISTORY OF VIOLENCE**

Questions? Call 328-4715  
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Email: [STUDENTUNION@MAIL.ECU.EDU](mailto:STUDENTUNION@MAIL.ECU.EDU)

**Books** from page B1

experience and may make the first few weeks a bit more bearable. He concludes the premiere reality with the important supportive people behind the scenes, along with how college is an opportunity to grow and evolve.

Reality two discusses the significance of a solid job hunt to get your preferred career. The author goes into detail about the job hunting process. He makes clear the vitality of getting good grades in college and gaining useful experience during your years at school. Also, the professional advice on everything from interviewing skills and negotiating a job offer proves to be extremely helpful.

The third reality effectively displays ways for someone who is just starting out in a new career to make a good first impression. Roth clarifies on interacting with

a new supervisor and how to build relationships throughout

**More Info**

**Who:** Bob Roth  
**What:** A new how-to book  
**Where:** Available at The4Realities.com  
**Why:** Help college students during their academic and professional careers

To learn more and get a free sample of Bob Roth's book visit his Web site at The4Realities.com

the organization. These are recommendations that every beginning professional should obtain. Finally, Roth uses the fourth reality to ease his readers from their former student roles into their new independent ones. He

reviews information about new income and a suitable budget for what you're making. Along with that, there are answers about relocation issues, how to protect against identity theft and ways to meet new people and make new friends. It summarizes main concerns and responds to every fresh graduate's question on how to begin a new segment of life.

The years that a person spends in college are without a doubt life-altering. New memories and friends are made, and life lessons are learned both in and outside of the classroom. However, professional suggestions are invaluable in new situations. The lines a student needs to cross into becoming a professional can sometimes be blurry, but this book makes it much clearer.

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

**Tenors** from page B1

ground in either music or theatre, and in most cases, both.

From secondary education studies in Music to highly acclaimed performances in productions of *Grease*, *Cats*, *Footloose*,

Oklahoma, *Annie*, *Les Miserables*, *West Side Story* and *Camelot* (among many others), the members of the Ten Tenors still manage having a great sense of humor while also pushing themselves on

stage during long tours. It makes you wonder - maybe the Ten Tenors really are larger than life.

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

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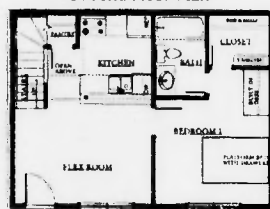
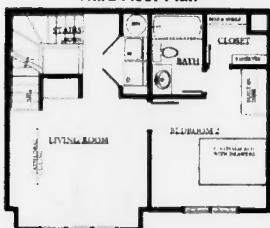
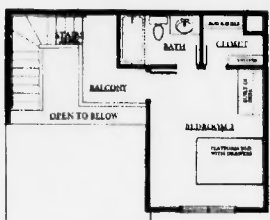
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Pirates a position 27 sign

ERIC GILM SENIOR W

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# Holtz hauls in 2006 recruiting class

**Pirates address depth, position concerns with 27 signees**

ERIC GILMORE  
SENIOR WRITER

A late push helped boast ECU's 2006 recruiting class as arguably the best since ECU joined Conference USA in 1997. Even with online recruiting services releasing recruits' every thought, the Skip Holtz coaching staff corralled a talented group sprinkled with some projects.

Holtz signed 27 of the 46 players that came to campus on official visits. Of the 27, nine are from North Carolina, eight are from Florida, and Georgia and South Carolina are represented with three players apiece.

#### Quarterbacks

Holtz showed his trust in red-shirt freshmen Robert Kass and Brett Clay by declining to sign a true quarterback. Holtz stated publicly that he doesn't want to waste his 85 allotted scholarships on signal callers. But by not signing a quarterback, he will now be forced to rely on Kass, Clay or sophomore Patrick Pinkney once current starting quarterback, James Pinkney graduates.

#### Grade - D+

#### Running Backs

Holtz went into the recruiting process hoping to sign only one running back. Because former verbal commitment Kennard Reeves opted for Vanderbilt late in the game, the door was opened for the enigmatic Norman Whitley. The Richmond County back turned down BCS offers early in the recruiting process only to have them pulled later on.

"That's the kind of kid that we want here," said running backs coach Junior Smith referring to the Shine Bowl MVP.

"To have the confidence, to have a chip on their shoulder believing they're the best back in the country."

Fullback was an immediate concern that Holtz addressed in the form of Kevin Gidrey since Jermarcus Veal and Jason Pender both graduated. According to Holtz, Gidrey the 252 pound bruiser is a "big, thick, athletic son of a gun" who will compete for playing time as a freshman.

#### Grade - B

Reason Why: Holtz failed to corral Devven Sutton, a highly coveted fullback that could have

been a goal line threat.

#### Wide Receivers

Recruiting coordinator and wide receivers coach Donnie Kirkpatrick couldn't stop bragging about how talented Javon Brumsey and late additions Dwayne Harris and DeMorio Waymon are.

"Those guys are being signed so in two years, we won't have to rebuild, we'll be reloading," said Kirkpatrick.

Brumsey has the height necessary to climb the proverbial ladder to complete fade routes accompanied with blazing speed.

"His strength is his speed (4.43), his height, which you can't coach and his hands," said Northeastern High School coach Antonio Moore about Brumsey who chose the Pirates over N.C. State and Virginia.

"I could make a whole list about his strengths. I couldn't finish without saying that Javon is a great kid and a great personality."

#### Grade - B+

Reason Why: Holtz signed three very quality players, but missed out on some playmakers and also failed to ink a true tight end.

#### Offensive Linemen

Steve Shankweiler added some hogs to his offensive linemen troop in bringing along five newcomers. After graduating three starters, Holtz needed some immediate help while still securing the future. Willie Barton, a 320-pound JUCO transfer from Georgia Military should compete for a starting spot. Andrew Farr, a prep school transfer is rehabbing a knee injury, but will participate in spring practice.

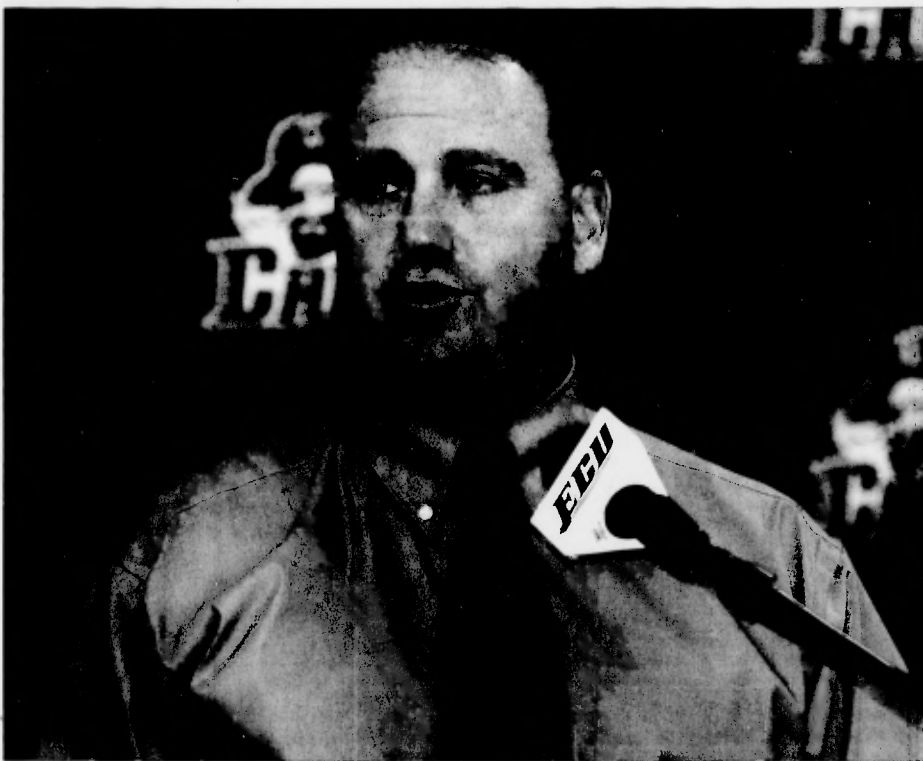
D.J. Scott, Sean Allen and Cory Dowless participated in ECU's summer camp. Scott, the highly regarded of the three was the first verbal commitment and never wavered from his decision. Doug Polochak hails from Nease High School, one of the premier schools in Florida.

#### Grade - A

Reason Why: Holtz brought in five quality players, but only one potential 2006 starter.

#### Defensive Linemen

Ask any high school coach what the hardest position to recruit is and he will immediately answer with the defensive line. Luckily for the Pirates, defensive line coach Donnie Thompson is one of the best recruiters in the state. Thompson personally plucked defensive ends from the region



Skip Holtz speaks to the media at a press conference Wednesday afternoon as ECU announced its 2006 recruiting class.

in 6-foot-7-inch Travis Melvin and 6-foot-6-inch Willie Smith. The Pirates also inked a couple of unknowns in Joe Council and Davion Holman.

"[Davion's] got tremendous range," said Dr. Phillips High School Head Coach Kevin Pettis about Davion Holman who turned down Nebraska. "His wing span is unbelievable. He's just a tall, rangy type of kid who gets after it real well."

#### Grade - A

Reason Why: Holtz signed plenty of potential, but no kids that are likely to compete immediately.

#### Linebackers

The seven linebackers will make Pirate fans forget about the four that recently graduated. With a slew of young talent already in the program, Holtz added veteran JUCO's in Orlando Farrow, Fred Wilson and Daniel Muhewzi. All three have legitimate height and size lacking in the younger players.

Holtz inked four freshman players, all of which will take time to develop. Relative unknown Chris Atkins and Atlanta product Lorenzo Osborne will have to gain weight while middle linebacker prospects Nick and A.J. Johnson will have to develop their speed.

#### Grade - A

#### Secondary

Holtz signed tall, rangy corners while still maintaining hard hitting safeties. Convincing Melvin Patterson to play with his cousin Kasey Ross in the secondary was a huge coup. Patterson chose ECU on Tuesday over N.C. State, but will need to rehab an ACL injury he suffered during the first game of his senior season.

"Trying to find a weakness, I don't see a lot of them there," said Santa Fe Head Coach Scott Pritchett about Patterson.

"He's not perfect, but he's got a lot of strengths. I can't see a lot of negatives."

Corners Darryl Reynolds and Dekota Marshall, both over six feet and from the region both have the opportunity to play in 2006. Marshall, who bench presses 370 pounds despite his 185 pound frame runs a 4.4 40-yard dash.

"[Dekota's] potential is unlimited," said 23-year Southwest Onslow Head Coach Phil Padgett.

"It wouldn't shock me if he is playing on Sundays in four or five years."

Travis Simmons, a late addition and Dan Wideman, a possible academic casualty, are both considered projects.

#### House Cleaning

Holtz announced that five players have left the program citing playing time as their main concern. Cornerback Erode Jean, wide receiver Brian Howard, offensive

linemen Zach Davis and Mike Williams and defensive lineman Mike Horner will move onto 1-AA schools.

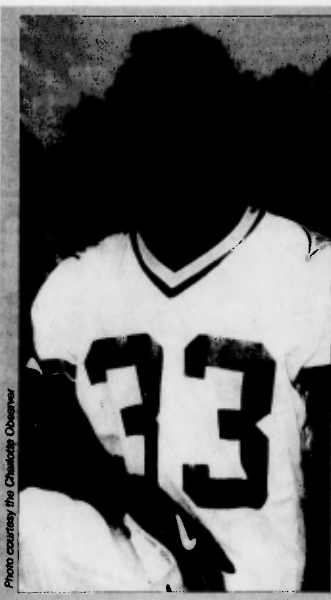
#### Tillman suspended

Starting H-back Robert Tillman has been suspended from the team for the spring semester. Holtz did not give a specific reason for the rising senior's suspension. Tillman caught 16 balls for 186 yards and one touchdown in six games before suffering a season-ending hamstring injury.

#### MacDonagh ends career

Mike MacDonagh, a former walk-on transfer from Wayne St. will no longer don football pads. MacDonagh finished with 11 tackles, including two for loss while starting five games in each of the last two seasons. The defensive end suffered a neck injury during the final game of the season causing a narrowing in his spine.

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



## Norman Whitley, RB, 5-9, 180, 4.7-40

- Captured back-to-back conference MVP honors for a tradition-rich Richmond County program.

- Earned four letters and helped guide the Raiders to a combined 52-4 record during a prep career which included consecutive conference titles in 2002, 2003, 2004 and 2005.

- Rushed for 2,175 yards and scored 24 touchdowns as a senior.

- Established new Richmond County single-season records a year earlier as a junior with 2,666 rushing yards (290 carries) and 39 ground scores.

- Averaged an impressive 9.2 yards per carry as a junior.

- Top single-game effort of note was a 377 all-purpose yard performance, which included a 91-yard kickoff return, against Millbrook High School.

- Selected to play in the prestigious Shrine Bowl and responded with an MVP performance.

- Rushed for 132 yards to lead North Carolina to a 28-24 win over South Carolina.

- Coach was ECU Hall-of-Fame member and former Pirate coach Ed Emory (1980-1984).

## 2006-2007 ECU Recruiting Class

Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Hometown
Sean Allen	OL	6-3	290	Wilson, NC
Chris Atkins	LB	6-3	200	Chattahoochee, FL
Willie Barton	OL	6-5	350	Palmetto, FL
Javon Brumsey	WR	6-4	190	Elizabeth City, NC
Joe Council	DL	6-4	235	Walterboro, SC
Cory Dowless	OL	6-5	300	Franklinville, NC
Kevin Gidrey	FB	6-2	250	Virginia Beach, VA
Dwayne Harris	ATH	6-0	190	Stone Mountain, GA
Davion Holman	DL	6-4	245	Orlando, FL
A.J. Johnson	LB	6-2	225	Atlanta, Ga
Nick Johnson	LB	6-1	225	Charlotte, N.C
Dekota Marshall	DB	6-1	185	Jacksonville, NC
Travis Melvin	DE	6-6	260	Fayetteville, N.C
Lorenzo Osborne	LB	6-3	200	Atlanta, GA
Mejvin Patterson	WR	6-3	205	Alachua, FL
Doug Polochak	OL	6-4	270	Ponte Vedra Beach, FL
Darryl Reynolds	CB	6-1	185	New Bern, NC
D.J. Scott	OL	6-6	305	Green Cove Springs, FL
Travis Simmons	DB	5-10	175	Tallahassee, FL
Willie Smith	DL	6-6	230	Kenly, NC
DeMorio Waymon	WR	6-3	185	Tallahassee, FL
Norman Whitley	RB	5-9	180	Hamlet, NC
Dan Wideman	ATH	6-2	210	Greenwood, SC

#### Mid-year Additions

Andrew Farr	OL	6-4	280	Pell City, AL
Orlando Farrow	LB	6-3	225	Georgetown, DE
Danny Muhewzi	LB	6-3	235	Germantown, MD

# Signing day: A recruiting bonanza, for whom?

(KRT) — On ESPN, they're calling it "election-style" coverage. By the time it's over, the network's 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. (CST) special might make national signing day seem more like national signing week.

College Sports TV will offer a more modest three hours of coverage Wednesday, beginning at 3 p.m. Like its five-lettered competitor, the network will feature interviews with college coaches, highlights of top recruits and live player commitment announcements.

Alas, neither will be on the air at 9 a.m., when a defensive tackle from Fort Lauderdale named Charles Deas is set to pledge to LSU, Auburn, Florida State or Nebraska.

Not even Deas' coach, Mark James of Dillard High School, knows which school he will pick.

"He told me he was going to shock the nation," James told rivals.com.

In fairness, you can understand why Deas and the 20 other recruits who are set to make live announcements Wednesday might have lost their perspective on things.

The attention paid to recruits in the months leading to national signing day never has been greater.

And it goes well beyond Web sites such as scout.com and rivals.com, which has 150,000 subscribers paying at least \$9.95 per month for information, rumors and everything in between.

"The amount of access they have to student-athletes is amazing," top recruit Myron Rolle told a national panel examining recruiting ethics. "They can call you on your cell phone seven times a night

and you're like, 'Didn't I give you an interview two minutes ago?' That can be overwhelming."

Rolle, a defensive back from New Jersey, said Monday he even had received attention from Florida Gov. Jeb Bush, who text-messaged him while he visited Florida State's campus in November.

Rolle recalled the message going like this: "I'm excited you're looking at Florida State. (Florida State President) T.K. Wetherell and I are friends. When you come to Tallahassee again, let's hook up with each other. Jeb Bush."

"There may have been a time when something like that shocked me," University of Georgia President Michael Adams told the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*. "But I have been in this too long. Are our priorities out of order? The answer is, yes."

A love note from the brother of the commander-in-chief notwithstanding, Rolle had committed orally to Florida State in September. So Bush, indeed, will get his chance to "hook up" with Rolle.

You don't need a TV (or a newspaper) to keep tabs on your favorite school's recruiting class.

Notre Dame will offer live coverage of coach Charlie Weis' 11 a.m. news conference on its Web site, und.com. Subscribers to Fighting Irish All-Access Monthly (\$6.95/month) can view a video highlight package featuring each Irish signee.

Northwestern fans can check out coach Randy Walker's 6 p.m. news conference at NUSports.com, but the school generally takes a low-key approach

**Recruiting** from page B5

to signing day. Walker would rather see his current crop of players receive attention. And his focus on intangibles such as character and work ethic lead to relatively low rankings for his classes.

Said assistant athletic director Mike Wolf: "You look at guys like Tim McGarigle, Mark Philmore and Shaun Herbert, they were ranked as the minimum-star recruits."

It's true. Rivals.com gave each two stars and ranked Northwestern's 2002 class 65th nationally. Actually it was tied for 65th with Middle Tennessee State.

McGarigle, Philmore and Herbert all fourth-year players helped NU tie for third in the Big Ten last season.

If Northwestern is going low-key, Illinois is going high-key. Its Web site, fightingillini.com, will feature live online chats and interviews with coaches, an all-day "war room" blog that begins at 7 a.m. and streaming video of coach Ron Zook's 3:30 p.m. news conference.

Cassie Arner, the school's associate director

of athletic public relations, devised the plan. And Zook embraced it.

"We want to make the biggest bang anyone has ever seen," Arner said. "People know everything that's going on with recruiting now because of the Internet. If you're not helping them, then they're going to go somewhere else. We want to be their best source of information."

And, coming off a winless Big Ten season, the school figures the extra promotion can only help ticket sales and boost a Memorial Stadium renovation project.

Arner's original plan called for an online show during which current Illinois players and coaches would hold clipboards and discuss the signings, almost like ESPN's coverage of the NFL draft. But Illinois' compliance department nixed that idea.

Still, Illinois will break ground with its signing day bonanza.

"We're going to cover this just like we cover a game week," Arner said. "Recruiting is our game."



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Eager reporters gather to interview Seattle Seahawks quarterback Matt Hasselbeck and others prior to Sunday's Super Bowl.

## Super Bowl Media Day: News of the weird

(KRT) — I'm standing in Ford Field on the third row of a set of bleachers, which surround a small barricade, which surrounds a booth, which houses a dais. Behind the dais sits Seattle Seahawks running back Shaun Alexander.

Right about now, I'm starting to think this might not be an intimate one-on-one chat.

And then things get weird. Alexander starts talking about his spiritual beliefs while, in the next booth over, alleged comedian Gilbert Gottfried waves an ESPN2 microphone toward Seahawks defensive end Grant Wistrom and asks what kind of hair gel he uses. In a

lapse of journalistic focus, I miss Wistrom's answer.

Gottfried then wanders over to Alexander and asks him to tell the funniest joke he knows. Alexander says he'll get back to him. Gottfried then tells Alexander to repeat any dirty joke he can remember. This is a minute or two after Alexander has explained how he became a Christian. Weird just became awkward.

In fact, I'm offering that as the NFL's new marketing slogan, free of charge:

"Super Bowl Media Day: Where Weird Meets Awkward." Over the course of two hours Tuesday — an hour apiece for the

Seahawks and the Pittsburgh Steelers — almost every possible topic will be fully unexplored. Hundreds of reporters converge in one glorious glob of media excess. The only thing missing is insight.

Alexander, besides graciously declining to tell Gottfried a dirty joke, wins the award for saying the most while saying the least. The league MVP has been waiting for a long-term contract for a long term now. He is asked if he'll give the Seahawks first shot at signing him.

"Yes." Moving on, then. Alexander satisfies Gottfried's continued queries by saying

quarterback Matt Hasselbeck is the funniest guy on the team, or at least the one everyone laughs at. Or laughs with. Alexander is a little vague.

Gottfried traipses over to Hasselbeck's booth and tells him that Alexander singled him out as the Seahawks' funniest player.

"Tell me a joke," Gottfried demands.

Say what you will about his annoying voice and foul mouth, but when Gottfried says "jump," NFL players don't even wait to consult their agents.

"There are three kinds of

see WEIRD page B8

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**Weird** from page B7

people in the world," Hasselbeck says. "Those who are good at math and those who aren't."

OK, it's not sidesplitting funny, but on a day when the comedians/roving reporters include Gottfried and Tom Arnold, we'll take any semblance of humor we can get. In fact, we'll take anything to relieve the torture of too many stories from too many angles in too loose of a format.

Solemn questions are followed by goofy questions which lead to insane questions. A reporter from a Spanish-language media outlet conducts interviews with a hand puppet. The puppet sports Troy Polamalu-style hair. Cute, but can the puppet make a deadline?

Some questions even address football, but that doesn't necessarily improve the situation. For example, Seattle coach Mike Holmgren offers this revealing analysis into the key to Super Bowl XL, which will be played this Sunday:

"The difference in the game will be who turns the ball over the fewest times," Holmgren said. While I am unable to confirm

this at press time, rumor also has it that the team who scores the most points will win.

The Seahawks are trapped for an hour with no easy escape, but at least they can take solace in the Steelers suffering the same plight.

The Steelers, too, find themselves surrounded by microphones attached to sporadically coherent owners. Most seem very interested in finding out if Jerome Bettis is from Detroit.

New York Giants defensive end Michael Strahan, masquerading as a reporter for The NFL Network, approaches Steelers receiver Hines Ward. I anticipate Strahan has a question but, alas, my instincts fail me. "The only man in football with a better smile than me is you," Strahan tells Ward.

Strahan says something about Ward trying to block him, then inquires whether Ward has a nastier visage in his facial repertoire.

"Give me a mean mug," he tells Ward.

Ward scrunches up his face. He looks not unlike Gilbert Gottfried.

Now that's funny. In a weird, awkward sort of way.

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