

# Casey's Race 2006 very successful

### Runners remember Casey Rogers

CLAYTON BAUMAN  
STAFF WRITER

The public and ECU fraternities and sororities all converged at the Toyota Amphitheater in downtown Greenville last Sunday for Casey's Race.

Benefitting the Boys and Girls Club of Pitt County, runners turned out for the event in mass at an estimated 200 participants. Runners couldn't have asked for better weather at the event, with bright sunny skies and a nice cool temperature for the afternoon.

Matt Robitaille, senior construction management major, organized the event through his fraternity, Sigma Alpha Epsilon.

The race is in honor of Casey Rogers, a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon who passed away two years ago in a car accident.

Moments before the race, runners gathered for a moment of silence to remember Rogers. Runners also gave a round of applause for Casey's mother who was present at the event.

"I think today was very successful," said Robitaille, "I wouldn't be surprised if we raised seven to 10,000 dollars today."

"It's the first time that all the fraternities and sororities on ECU's campus have gotten together, and it's great to see how many letter shirts and all are out here," said Robitaille.

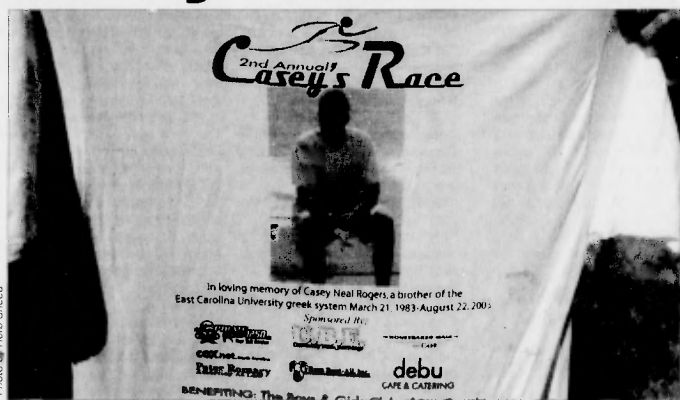
He is very optimistic about having a third Casey's race next year, and hopes to have Greek life come together yet again for

the event. "[The event] was very well put together. It was quite an experience; it was for a good cause. I enjoyed it, it was good," said William Branch, another race participant.

"It was a lot of fun," said Lauren Johnson, sophomore art major and member of Alpha Delta Pi sorority. "I'm glad to see a lot of people out and about, you know, supporting Casey's Race. It was a good turn out for the Greek community and the Greenville community."

Racers and volunteers enjoyed live music and catering from a variety of Greenville businesses following the race.

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



Second Annual race was held last weekend to benefit the Boys and Girls Club of Pitt County.

## Students get their hands dirty for a good cause

### A hands-on learning experience unlike others

RACHEL KING  
NEWS EDITOR

Members of an ECU religion class joined with community persons to get their hands dirty for a good cause this past weekend.

Forty-two students and community members chased chickens and learned about farm and environmental issues this past Saturday at "Farm Day." Dr. Calvin Mercer, professor of a religion and social issues class, organized the event on a locally emerging organic farm.

Sitting on plastic buckets on the farmhouse porch, participants listened as farmers Joe and Beth Miller described the struggles of the modern day small farmer.

"What really made us start farming was our desire for good things to eat," Miller said, as she compared the experience of eating a fresh organic tomato with a grocery store tomato shipped in from afar and grown with pesticides.

One part of the day involved a visit from a neighbor farmer who grew up in India. He talked to the group and then demonstrated how chickens are killed for the table in India by slaughtering

two chickens. Students had the option of watching.

"For some, this was a somewhat disturbing thing to see, but it brings home in a vivid way what is involved in eating meat. For us to eat meat, some animal has to die," said Mercer.

In the later discussion on the back porch, Joe Miller pointed out that farm animals run loose and eat bugs, worms and grass.

"Although it ends in death, the life of these farm animals is quite different from the life of those chickens you see on the highway, caged and pumped with hormones," Miller said.

"We non-farmers overlook and take for granted those who are still a part of agriculture," said Greg Harris, a senior religion and anthropology double major.

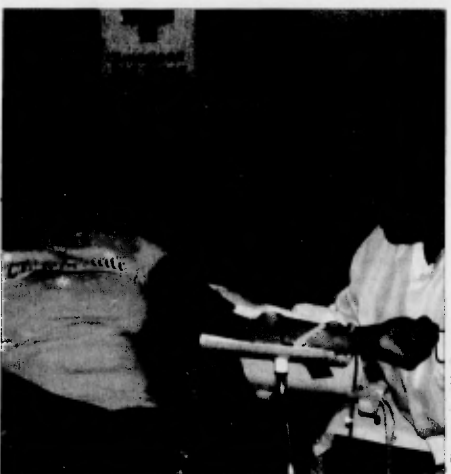
"I can see that this kind of farming requires a tremendous amount of knowledge, experience, strength and character. It is disheartening to see how far removed so many of us are from farming. It wasn't that long ago that we all were farmers."

Part of the day involved working on the farm, as students divided up tasks that included weeding blueberries, cleaning out a chicken pen, tightening a

see FARM page A2



Dr. Calvin Mercer stands with a student at Farm Day this past weekend.



Lakisha Feley is ready to donate blood for a good cause.

## ECU Air Force ROTC holds blood drive in Mendenhall

### Today is final day to give

CLAYTON BAUMAN  
STAFF WRITER

The Air Force ROTC at ECU has sponsored a blood drive to be held by the American Red Cross at Mendenhall Student Center.

The drive, which took place yesterday, will be held again today from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. Students are encouraged to come out and donate.

"This is just one of our events that we're doing just to volunteer, and put our name out there, just to show that we help out," said Karlo Rodriguez, recruit and group commander for the Air Force ROTC.

In regards to number of attendants donating today, Rodriguez estimated around 90 people came out.

"Giving blood is good cause you never know who might need it," said Herbie Sneed, senior media productions and communications major.

"It might be you, it might be your family members, it might be the next president, you never know."

Drew Mullane, freshman psychology major said, "It's my third

time giving blood. I don't know, it's not that bad, it's really a nice thing to do to help people out."

According to the National Blood Data Resource Center in a list of facts on the Red Cross Web site [givelife2.org](http://givelife2.org), 15 million units of whole blood and red blood were collected in 2001. The same source also stated that in 2001 nearly 14 million units of blood were used, equaling nearly 38,000 units of blood needed on any given day.

On the same Web site, one fact stated that under normal circumstances, every two seconds someone in America will need some form of a blood transfusion.

This can vary from burn victims, to surgery, all the way to a baby being born prematurely.

People with 'O' negative blood are in the highest demand because they are considered a "universal donor." They are capable of giving blood to anybody with a different blood type safely.

For more information on these facts and more regarding giving blood, please visit [givelife2.org](http://givelife2.org).

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## Public Relations society holds student forum



PRSSA held forum Monday to discuss questions about media.

### Professionals invited to speak and mingle

VANESSA CLARKE  
STAFF WRITER

The ECU chapter of the Public Relations Student Society of

the question and answer period. Several questions dealt with the daily grind of being a public relations officer. The answers were varied.

Erica Plouffe, a staff writer for the ECU News Bureau, said that regardless of what she had planned that day, she always starts it off the same way.

"First of all, I [check] Google... and check the news just to see what the media is saying about us," she said. This allows her to get a handle on if there is any pressing news she needs to attend to.

Nancy McGillcuddy, a public relations officer for News and Communication, spends much of her time dealing with the media, just like Plouffe. She said cultivating contacts with reporters is crucial, as is keeping a steady flow of good information going their way.

"Knowing what is news to a reporter and what is not," she said, is vital to maintaining good relations with the media.

Michael Crane is the assistant dean of marketing and outreach for the College of Fine Arts and Communications. He said he has little, if any, interaction with the media. He deals with the image the college projects to insiders and outsiders alike.

He writes the brochures that go out to prospective students and donors. He also coordinates the S. Rudolph Alexander Performing Arts Series, which seeks to expose students, staff and faculty to cultural events that they may have otherwise not seen.

The next question had to deal with the career paths the guests took to get to where they are

see PRSSA page A2

# Cost of part-time education is tough load

(KRT) — By day Katie Colvin works full time as a secretary at a downtown Dallas law firm. At night she goes to college.

She originally enrolled part time, but when the University of Texas at Dallas changed its tuition schedule last year to charge more per credit hour for part-time students, Colvin adjusted, braving a full load of five courses, or 15 credits, this semester.

After work, the Keller resident would battle the rush-hour exodus north on Central Expressway to the UTD campus in Richardson.

She fell behind in school. By February, she decided to drop three courses, losing nearly \$2,000 in tuition. "It was really frustrating, because I really enjoyed those courses," the 21-year-old said.

Now, with UTD again rais-

ing tuition more steeply for part-timers than full-time students, Colvin faces even bigger obstacles.

"Next semester it will cost me even more. I really worry because I have two years to go," she said. She already owes \$35,000 in loans.

Colvin is among a growing group of part-time students frustrated by the tuition changes at UT-Dallas and the University of Texas at Arlington, saying they can't enroll full time because of their jobs.

The two universities have adopted a new pricing structure designed to help recoup the steeper cost of educating part-timers, and to help prod part-timers to take a full load, so they can speed their way to a degree and save money in the long term. Pushing students to graduate faster also frees up classroom slots and helps the universities

absorb sharp growth each year. Call it the Sam's Club approach to tuition: Buy in bulk and save. This fall, undergraduates who take six credit hours will pay \$277 per credit, while those taking 15 credit hours would pay only \$217 per credit. Tuition for the six-credit students would jump about 29 percent, or \$371 a semester, while tuition for 15-credit students would rise a more modest 4.6 percent, or \$143 per semester.

But some students who live on their own and pay their tuition insist they can't possibly take a full course load to enjoy the savings.

Conceding that point, UT-Dallas this week announced several increases in its financial aid programs for part-time students. "Some of them are among our most vulnerable students economically and we feel an obligation to shield them from

the full impact" of the coming tuition hikes, UT-Dallas president David E. Daniel said.

In addition to federal Pell grants and state aid, UT-Dallas currently provides a maximum package of \$1,500 in need-based aid for part-timers and \$2,000 for full-time students. Those maximums will grow to \$1,800 for part-timers and \$2,200 for full-timers. Not all students qualify for the maximum.

Also, UT-Dallas has set aside \$100,000 in aid for financially strapped students taking only three credit hours, with priority to students who will complete their degrees with the three credits. UT-Dallas had previously echoed federal policy, which does not provide aid to those taking fewer than six credit hours per semester.

UT-Dallas officials also say some part-timers have their tuition

covered by employers. That's true, but those paying their own way say they still feel the pinch.

Graduate student Mindy Nail, 25, works days for an insurance company. Her company pays \$2,500 toward her degree each year, and she pays about \$5,000. "The tuition increases are frustrating," she said, "but it's not an option for me to take classes full time."

Jennifer Riley, 27, works days as head of inventory loss prevention for a retailer, and takes classes toward her accounting degree three nights a week. She is taking eight credits this semester and plans to take nine in the fall. She pays her own tuition and has accumulated about \$40,000 in student loans.

"It's frustrating," she said of the tuition hikes, "but not surprising." She said the university talks about accommodating its working

adult students, but she has not seen that. "I've had academic advisers ask why I couldn't take courses I needed during the day. They say, 'Can't you talk to your boss to get more flexible hours?' And I'm like, 'No, are you kidding?'"

Colvin expressed similar frustration. She said she will only be able to take two courses this fall even if she wants to handle a full load. That's because only four courses she needs to complete her degree will be offered at night. One she already took, and two others are scheduled at the same time.

The concerns of part-timers highlight conflicting goals for the UT system. On the one hand, there is a desire to improve graduation rates and shorten student time to graduation.

see TOUGH page A2





## My Random Column

### Entertaining Web sites

So I would like to share with you some rather amusing Web sites to keep you busy as the end of the semester heads quickly in our direction.

**whopperettes.com**

This one is based on the new Burger King® advertisements. You have the ability to make your own Whopper, which goes along with the "Have it your way" slogan and girls dressed up as parts of the hamburger combine to make a monstrous Whopper. You can add up to any combination of 30 items. So if you want 25 patties and all the rest ketchup, it's all yours. True to its form, you can have it your way.

**virtual-bubblewrap.com**

This one is the ultimate bubble wrap site. You can use manic mode to pop the bubbles as you quickly move over them, or regular mode to pop one at a time. It also gives methods and suggestions for popping real bubble wrap and etiquette tips for those around you. The disclaimer says it all...

**malerestrooms.com**

Now this Web site is a monologue of what happens in a males public bathroom. It is much more entertaining than the Female Restroom that you can link to from this site, though it is worth seeing once. It was a nice insight to the opposite sex's experience when they walk into the bathroom. It lasts for a while so time is quickly passed while watching the video.

**ebaumsworld.com/fishy.html**

Fish beware, the more you eat, the bigger you get. You start off as a very small minnow and grow into a big blue fish as you consume more and more fish that are smaller than you. The problem is that the fish move at various speeds so the game moves rather slow, thus the appeal. Hours are wasted and nothing gained; sounds like a good afternoon to me.

**blockfrenzy.com**

The goal of this Web site is to keep the red block from touching the sides or being hit by the blue blocks. You control it by dragging the red block around the screen. There is a reference guide to inform the player of how good their time was. The site even lets you know before you start playing that "the game is highly addictive."

**venganza.org/games/index.htm**

OK, so I know that I have received several attempts from supporters to run something about the Flying Spaghetti Monster. So here is a Web site in which the player must convert people into pastafarians, a.k.a. little pirate people, before the time runs out by hitting them with the Spaghetti Monsters' "noody appendage." It is an interesting game that must be seen to understand the wrath of the Spaghetti Monster.



## Opinion Columnist

### Pedophile in Department of Homeland Security caught in Internet sting

*Member of Department of Homeland Security arrested*

**BENJAMIN CORMACK**  
CASUAL OBSERVER

Now normally you'd think it would be a good thing when the words "Department of Homeland Security" and "arrested" appear in the same sentence. However, when that sentence is, "Member of Department of Homeland Security arrested," that's not so good. On April 4, Department of Homeland Security deputy press secretary Brian J. Doyle, 55, was arrested and charged with seven counts of use of a computer to seduce a child and 16 counts of transmission of harmful material to a minor. Basically, this guy tried to have sex with a girl he thought was 14 years old. I say "thought" because the girl was in fact a detective posing as one online.

Doyle later confessed to police to all of his actions. Doyle's relationship with the fictional girl started on March 12, and continued until his arrest. According to a statement from the sheriff's office that arrested Doyle, he said in his online conversations who he was and that he worked for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. He even gave out the phone numbers to his home, his office and even... get this... his government issued cell phone.

The good news just keeps on coming. Authorities also believe that Doyle could have held similar conversations with others online. At some points during

online chats he would address the detective by the wrong name. Doyle also sent photos of himself that were not sexually explicit but said he would send nude photos if the "girl" would buy a Web camera and send him nude photos. You can even see Doyle's Department of Homeland Security name tag in one of the photos!

This guy is supposed to be protecting us? Even if you exclude the laws he broke in attempting to have sex with a child, the guy has already done stuff that could land him in jail for life. He put the security of the United States at risk by handing out that information. Who knows who else he may have conversed with and what secrets or other information he may have divulged. Who knows what people could do with the information he may have given out.

I honestly believe that if Brian J. Doyle had been left to do what he was doing, either the security of our nation would have been compromised or he could have eventually risen to a higher seat of power and used his authority to protect himself and others like him. Brian J. Doyle should be labeled as a sexual deviant and a traitor and should be prosecuted as such to the fullest extent of the law.

Doyle is divorced and has children, which begs the questions, why didn't it work out? What would his ex-wife and children have to say about him? I won't be surprised if there's more to this story.

One of the most disturbing facts about this whole incident

is that all of this was going on within an organization that has been given the authority to monitor individuals that they believe are terrorists. This means they have the authority and capability to monitor the personal communications of just about anybody. Yet, they apparently didn't think to monitor one of their own. Now to be fair, a Department of Homeland Security spokesman said that they would cooperate in the investigation, but that still doesn't exclude one important fact, they hired Doyle.

Being such an important government organization, you would think that in doing a background check for potential employees that they would have discovered some things that would have raised a few eyebrows. Even after hiring someone, you would think that the risk of leaking information vital to the safety and security of the United States would be a concern. As such, you would assume that they would also monitor those working for them rather than just those they assume are terrorists.

I guess because Doyle didn't fit the profile of a terrorist or because he wasn't a Muslim, anything that made him look like a pedophile wasn't their problem. Personally, I would like to know who hired him or how he got this job, because whoever it was has got some questions to answer.

Here's an idea, maybe the Patriot Act should extend to those that work for the government. Since they're, you know, also in a position that could be potentially beneficial to terrorists, just a thought.

## In My Opinion

(KRT) — We Latinos are on fire these days. In more ways than one. Immigration protests across the country have reignited the Latino engine but also refueled the opposite side.

Some people think we threaten American identity because we don't assimilate, which I don't get. Heck, even our tortillas assimilate... wheat, spinach or multigrain? By the third generation, most of us will speak only English. Half will marry outside our ethnic box.

Some critics wrote to me upset that so many of you younger ones walked out of school. They buy the perception that Latinos don't value education (and, be honest, our high dropout rates don't help), that we're "dumbing down" U.S. schools.

I'd argue that the protesters, especially the younger ones, learned more last week than they had all year. A protest is democracy in action, and I can't think of a better way to learn about First Amendment rights—including the right to stage walkouts and wave any flag you like—than firsthand experience.

And the Mexican flags, ay Dios mio, that has taken on a life of its own. (And if you haven't seen the memo, organizers of the Sunday protest in Dallas discouraged anything but the Stars and Stripes.)

Symbols mean different things to different people. Many folks who e-mailed me were quite exercised by images of a "Mexican mob" waving its flag, signaling the

beginning of the "reconquista." They actually believe Latinos are migrating here because they want to take back what used to be Mexico. Believe me, we Latinos aren't that coordinated; the answer is actually much simpler—a better-paying job.

So many myths to dispel. So I call on my fellow pochos—the culture straddlers—to step it up.

In states like California, New Mexico, Arizona, Texas and Florida, we Latinos will soon be the workforce majority. Millions of those workers are first-generation Americans—pochos.

Countries like Canada, England and Ireland actively recruit immigrants because, as their populations age, they need younger blood to sustain the comfy life retirees worked hard to ensure. U.S. politicians and educators realize this, and some are freaking out. They know, for instance, that Texas' economic health depends on how well you first-generation workers do.

It's tough to be a pocho, but there are millions of us now, byproducts of foreign economic instability and America's insatiable appetite for cheap labor. And if we all make a long-term commitment, we can make sure more of our children go to college and fewer end up in jail.

Demonstrations are valuable and worthy, but, ultimately, they are only mileposts along the way. Education is really our only long-term salvation.

On Monday, a national coal-

ition of pro-immigrant groups urges Latinos to take the day off from work, stay home and save their pennies to show the economic impact we have, whether or not here legally.

What about Tuesday, my fellow pochos and sympathizers? Dojores Huerta, a co-founding member of the United Farm Workers, said at a university rally in California that the marches are great, but we need to vote.

And in Dallas, as in many other big cities, Spanish surnames dominate the public school rosters, so the classroom is another good starting point. Teachers and principals will tell you that their biggest challenge is engaging Latino parents, who aren't as involved as they should be.

Latino students, part of your job is re-educating your parents. What worked at home doesn't necessarily work here. Encourage your parents to take ownership of the schools, just as they did the streets. And you pochos who've beaten the odds, give back—participate in career days, mentor a kid or help fill out college applications.

Protests generate energy, but they are a means, not an end. Sunday's march in Dallas may have been the biggest in the city's history, but do not be fooled. If the symbolism doesn't fuel substance, our efforts will prove empty.

The real work starts Tuesday, with a daily commitment every day thereafter.

## Pirate Rant

Who is the idiot that wrote that piece? Ever hear of "Innocent until proven guilty?" Now that the DNA doesn't match her facts are starting to look a little shaky huh? If the lacrosse team is innocent, I hope you are prepared to write an apology.

If you hate ECU so much and talk so negatively about it, then why do you go here?

Special thanks to ECU Parking & Traffic for jump-starting my car in an ECU lot after my battery died. Not only was the officer helpful, but he was very prompt and pleasant. How nice!

Remind me, please, what is so bad about Higher One?

Why is it that half of the times I go to West End for lunch, the dining hall is being taken over by children! I can barely get dessert because the little kids eat it all before the actual ECU students can get to them! All I want is dessert!

Basically every university at its best is a four year community college, not just ECU.

I hate to break it to you people who want to sound so smart. ECU police do write parking tickets. I have watched an ECU police officer write me one. In fact, I have the ticket with the officers name to prove it.

Can someone please tell my why it is always so cold in the buildings on campus? I've been here four years and they have never been able to get the room temperature right. It's always too hot in the winter and freezing in the summer. Something's not right here!

I'm in love with you, you idiot. Dump the girlfriend so we can go out to dinner.

Over the past week, I have seen many girls and one guy wearing pink shorts hit the handicap button on the doors around campus instead of opening it themselves. Why do they do this? I personally, thank God I have the ability to open the door myself, but I guess you can't expect a guy in pink shorts to open his own door.

Wrong sucker, you did not misspell "higher". You spelled it quite correctly. The word you misspelled was "hire" as in you want to employ someone. And yes, Tony McKee was a lone voice of reason surrounded by a horde of naive, liberal, self-centered, "what-about-me" suckers.

This weekend I called safe-ride about eight times. I got an automated message telling me to call back all eight times. Thanks Safe Ride!

Play more free movies on Sundays, stop discriminating against people that aren't dorks and like to go out on Friday and Saturday.

Is this semester labeled as the "group project" semester? I never did one for three years, but I am doing three this semester alone.

Did you see that bus driver who hit the fence last week? I am not sure how I feel about 18-year-olds who are responsible for a 25,000 pound vehicle...

To the person whose car was towed for being "too close to the driveway," I feel you, I got a ticket for parking in my driveway the wrong way. Best part is, the ticket was \$50, and it would be \$500 to appeal it. So I just flip off the meter maid that rides around near campus.

I'm so lucky ... every day I am always the 10,000th or 100,000th or 1,000,000th person to visit a Web site.

I don't give a crap what they do in your little country town that no one's heard of—we're in Greenville now.

A broken down car with graffiti becomes a piece of art when children around Greenville get a chance to express their creativity... don't be so negative and take your ass back to the trailer park.

When I go to bed with a girl, they always insist on sleeping against the wall. Why is that?

As for campus safety, please know that parking and traffic are ticketing and towing as fast as they can and the ECU police are giving out speeding tickets as fast as they can. Now be patient and continue to walk in groups in well lit areas!

The reason why the perp was last seen near Fourth Street is because a member of campus safety tried chasing down the guy when he noticed that the guy had a purse in his hands while running. "Applause" Also, if you don't feel safe around campus at night walking back from your cars or where ever, then call safe ride and they will contact a member of campus safety to escort you to where you're going on campus. It's their job to help protect us and keep things safe.

Why do we need all of these numbered and reserved parking spaces for campus administrators? These parking spaces are often noticeably empty. I agree that the chancellor should have a reserved space, but everyone else should park on the basis of get to work first, park closer to where you work. Set the example for others to follow.

Don't even put your trust in the ECU police, how many of criminals do they find, I am still trying to figure out how Krispy Kreme got robbed.

Thanks a lot for giving Safe Ride their credit. We try out absolute best to make it to you guys asap.

Could someone please tell my co-worker that just because I look at your boyfriend (whom is married and cheating on his wife with her) that I don't want him? Thanks.

When one thinks of London, the black taxis and red double decker busses come to mind. When one thinks of New York City, the yellow taxis and limousines come to mind. When one thinks of Greenville NC, tow trucks, parking tickets and petty crime comes to mind. I can hardly wait to graduate just to get out of here.

To understand the racial divide on campus all you have to do is pick up today's TEC. Why do we have a black student union when we already have a student union for all students. It seems that African American students are creating their own divide on this campus when the only colors we should care about are purple and gold.

If you life pina colodas, and getting caught in the rain. If you're not into yoga, if you have half-a-brain. If you like making love at midnight, in the dunes of the cape. I'm the lady you're looked for, write to me and escape.

*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 emailed to editor@theeastcarolinian.com. The editor reserves the right to edit opinions for content and brevity.*

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## Top 5s:

### Top 5 Movies:

1. Ice Age: The Meltdown
2. The Benchwarmers
3. Take the Lead
4. Inside Man
5. Lucky Number Seven

### Top 5 Albums:

1. Rascal Flatts
2. Pink
3. The Flaming Lips
4. Morrissey
5. Daniel Powter

### Top 5 TV Shows:

1. "American Idol-Tuesday"
2. "American Idol-Wednesday"
3. "CSI"
4. "Grey's Anatomy"
5. "Desperate Housewives"

### Top 5 Books:

1. Gone
2. The Da Vinci Code
3. The Secret Supper
4. Tomb of the Golden Bird
5. Tenth Circle

### Top 5 Movie Rentals:

1. Crash
2. Million Dollar Baby
3. Ocean's 12
4. The Aviator
5. The Notebook

### Coming Soon:

1. Scary Movie 4
2. The Wild
3. The Sentinel
4. Silent Hill
5. American Dreamz

## Horoscopes:

**Aries** - It's good for you to hang out with a person who helps you stay calm and cool. You can provide the energy. Together, you've got it made.

**Taurus** - A tough job is somewhat easier if you're doing it for a good reason. How about financial security, and maybe retiring early? Or paying off one bill.

**Gemini** - Just when you're almost at your wit's end, a miracle occurs. Somebody you thought could not be counted upon shows up, at just the right time. A favor is returned.

**Cancer** - It's not a good day to travel, or even to send out packages. Focus your attention on legal matters, and getting things to balance. It's not easy, but can be done.

**Leo** - You're a romantic, through and through. So, as you're studying, learn something that will make your relationship even sweeter than before. Poetry, perhaps?

**Virgo** - Gather up as much as you can, to feather your own nest. Then you can discuss a controversial topic in comfort.

**Libra** - One of your advantages is that you like to read. Browse through the instruction manual and make an important discovery.

**Scorpio** - You're doing the job the hard way. Find out where the orders come from. You can get around the middle-man and increase your profits.

**Sagittarius** - Others are beginning to see the sense in your argument. Even some who thought you were crazy are coming over to your side.

**Capricorn** - Listen at keyholes, and you'll discover where the power really lies. Once you have that figured out, you'll know where to place the pressure.

**Aquarius** - Follow the recommendation from a distant friend. Get involved with people who can help you solve tough problems.

**Pisces** - The way you manage your money is drawing positive attention. This inspires others to give you more money to manage. Resist the temptation to spend. If you don't you could end up in the opposite situation.

## Fun Facts:

You share your birthday with at least 9 million other people in the world.

People with blue eyes are better able to see in the dark.

The most productive day of the work week is Tuesday.

J. Edgar Hoover liked to fire FBI agents whose palms were sweaty when shaking hands.

The average NFL player's career lasts only three and a half years.

More than 50 percent of the people in the world have never made or received a telephone call.

Oak trees are struck by lightning more than any other tree.

# Watch out guys: Turn on or turn off?

What are girls looking for in a guy?

MEREDITH STEWART  
SENIOR WRITER

Every girl has their own opinion as to what they find attractive in a guy. Although everyone is very different there are some things that most girls can agree on, that they would consider attractive or not.

The first things I notice about a guy are his eyes. Many girls swoon for guys who have blue eyes, but like me and I'm sure many others can agree that green eyes are sexy as well as deep brown.

Hair color has never really been a big thing to me. Every guy looks different; so one hair cut could look good on one and bad on another. Most of the time I don't even know what a guys' hair looks like because he is usually wearing a hat. I think that's an athletic look, which is really cute on most guys.

A guy's personal choice of style really isn't that important... as long as his clothes fit his body. Tight jeans are just too much for me and really baggy clothes always look like they are about to fall off, just wear things that fit. I've dated guys who dress really preppy (popped collars and boat shoes) to guys who wear mostly skate clothes (Volcom hoodies and DC shoes). I like it when a guy bums to class and around his house, it shows that he's comfortable with himself. He has to know how to look good and

dress up when going out though; I like to dress up before going downtown and I want my guy to look just as good. It's really not that important to me though, I would not discriminate against a guy who chose to do otherwise. I've also heard many of my girl friends comment on guys' shoes. If they have ugly shoes they are immediately out. I on the other hand find that very shallow, but humorous at the same time.

I think glasses can change a guy's whole image. When I see a guy wearing glasses I immediately think smart, witty and charming. All stereotypical traits, but I just can't help it. When a guy who wears glasses switches to contacts I believe it takes away the innocent look and switches his image altogether.

Hairy guys are one of the biggest turn-offs ever. Really hairy legs, arms, backs and chests are just gross. Guys just an FYI - having one long eyebrow (aka uni-brow) looks ridiculous. Shave it, pluck

it or wax it right now to save yourself any further embarrassment. Just as a personal preference, facial hair is not attractive. A scruffy face really hurts and even well groomed facial hair just is not appealing, although you will find many other girls feel the exact opposite. I guess it really depends on what type of person you are looking for.

Quiet guys are probably one of the only things that make me nervous. I like to know what others are thinking and if they are too quiet it's difficult to get to

## Helpful Info

- Turn On:
- Confidence
  - Sense of humor
  - Talkative
  - Goal oriented
  - Intellectual
- Turn Off:
- Bad Breath
  - Quiet
  - Non-Sociable
  - Clingy
  - Can't get along with friends



Trying to turn on the light bulb of interest in a girl's head can be difficult sometimes, use this guide.

know them. Outspoken and confident guys usually get the girl.

As right or wrong as I may be on some of these accusations, keep in mind that every girl looks for different things in guys. Many say that it's not what is on the outside that counts, but I believe physical attraction is part of the

package. Why would you randomly start talking to someone who you did not find physically attractive? Something has to be there to draw you in. Once you like what you see, then you can spend time with each other and find out your common interest, goals and maybe even

dating plans. It's really important to just be yourself; if people do not like you for you, just remember there are about 23,000 other students who go here and would love to get to know you.

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

## Getting some sun time



Taking a trip to the beach with someone you love can be great.

## The best beaches for summer

MARIANNE BARROW  
STAFF WRITER

The skies are beginning to get a little bluer, the sun is bringing the heat and students are losing layers of clothing. Naturally, everyone's minds are starting to hone in on the one place they know for certain that they can relax, or maybe get a little crazy. So let's take it to the beaches.

There are different reasons for a little getaway to the shore and there are many places to choose from. Maybe you feel that spring break wasn't quite long enough and want to head back to the beach for some wild, sand filled fun. The top three choices for that option would be South Beach in Miami, Fla., Culebra Island in Puerto Rico and Santa Barbara in East Beach, Calif.

These top picks have been known to consistently meet everyone's party requirements

of good drinks, extreme dancing and beautiful views.

However, it's possible that an untamed vacation isn't exactly what you're looking for. There might be a special someone who you want to sweep away to an isolated island for a few days. For this kind of situation, a beach that's a little dreamier is probably a better choice.

One of the most suggested resorts isn't too far away on Kiawah Island in South Carolina. Also, for a couple willing to shell out money for an amazing time, there is East Hampton in New York. Finally we have a flawless beach in Santa Catalina, Calif. These three locations have all the characteristics of a romance-novel type of retreat. There are secluded beaches and plenty of activities specifically for couples.

Perhaps the best solution for trying to decide on a beach to vacation is one that's part wild, kind of passionate and really

see BEACH page A5



This is not your average bunny. He has magical secrets in April.

## Celebrity Profile: The Easter Bunny

Magical rabbit takes a "paws" for an interview

JOSEPH MINNICH  
STAFF WRITER

As Easter approaches, ECU students have no time to think about the days off from school. We are too busy worrying about what the Easter Bunny is going to be bringing us. Well, for shame ECU.

The Easter Bunny is upset with you and he requested that I be his messenger of truth. Pay attention to the tale of the most under appreciated hare of all time.

**TEC:** Why do you want to talk to me, Mr. Bunny?  
**EB:** First off, my name is Hue Effner, but I go by Eff. I chose you, Joe, because you are my only true fan at this school. Nobody else knows anything about my past.

**TEC:** Impossible.  
**EB:** It's true. I saw some freshmen in the Wright Plaza the other day. I asked them where the Easter Bunny came from, and they said "a hole." What a shame.

**TEC:** You mean, they didn't

even know that you were born in Germany around the 1500s? Nobody knows about your heroic pilgrimage to America in the 1700s? What do they teach these kids in history class?

**EB:** I'm used to disrespect from history professors. Life was good when I just left chicken eggs for the Pennsylvania Dutch children in their bonnets.

I loved being known as the Oschter Haws by all of the children. They loved me too. They even left carrots for me. For a few years they treated me as good as Santa Claus.

**TEC:** I don't understand. Now everybody knows your name. Did life get worse as you became more popular?  
**EB:** I don't know what happened to

people in the last few centuries. It seems like they just expect candy from me.

Nowadays, it's more like a job than a holiday. Since people started to treat me like a businessman, I decided to become one.

**TEC:** What are you talking about,

## But it's my life

Playing 'The Game' like no other

COLLEGE VIXEN  
TRUTH WRITER

For the past couple of weeks I have been spending some time alone during the weekdays. I am doing well in all of my classes and actually feel as if I have some order in my life. I'm starting to realize who I am as an individual and learning to appreciate myself for who I am.

But as soon as the weekend rolls around I am downtown partying like no other. My friend Catherine\* and I went to a club last weekend to have a few beers and enjoy being single. We were talking about everything under the moon when two really hot guys approached us and began small talk. My flirtation skills are not up to par, but I must have done something right. Those guys began buying us drinks and before I knew it a couple of drinks turned into about 12. Catherine and I excused ourselves "to the restroom" and just left the club.

We were both buzzed and were beginning to get the munchies. It was only 11:30 p.m. and we couldn't possibly go home, so we stopped by Boll's to get a bite to eat. While we were waiting for our food a couple more guys came up to us, ended up buying us bread sticks and a few shots.

At that point I couldn't decide if this was really the "single" life. Do single guys just go around buying stuff for girls hoping to get lucky? Are they that desperate

see LIFE page A5

see BUNNY page A5



**Bunny** from page A4

EH? You have a business?  
**EB:** I have businesses, plural. Who do you think owns all the candy companies? Hershey's? Mars? Ha! No human could handle that much power. All of these subsidiaries are just a front for BunnyMunny, Inc. I surpassed Bugs for the richest rabbit in the world title in 1981. Bugs is still my man, though.  
**TEC:** On the other hand, I hear things got rough with the Cadbury Bunny for awhile...  
**EB:** Yeah, that stretch where he tried to compete in my markets was stressful. I showed that pretty boy who was boss. I bought him out in 2000 when the Republicans took office. He couldn't handle the drop in stock prices. Sucker.  
**TEC:** Since we are on the subject, what is with the bunny-egg thing? They don't actually go together.  
**EB:** Come on Joe, you're a smart guy. Think about the symbolism. The egg is a perfect example of the renewal and rebirth of life. You know how we rabbits are all about making new life. That is how the rabbit got tied into spring so long ago. Even so, I can't just

leave baby bunnies in a kid's basket. The parents would kill me. So, I started with the egg and now I have an empire "over easy."  
**TEC:** Disregarding that terrible pun, what does the future hold for Hue Effner, the richest rabbit on the planet?  
**EB:** It's high time I got into the world of reality TV. I hear Flavor Flav has a good idea running. What do you think of "Bunny of Love?"  
**TEC:** Let me get this straight. You are a 500-year-old talking rabbit that still has not found a girlfriend?  
**EB:** Maybe you are not as smart as I thought. What do you think I do while I am in Greenville? I am always downtown looking for that one lucky lady. I have a thing for blondes.  
**TEC:** Wow, thanks for your time Eff. Is there anything else you would like to say?  
**EB:** I have spoken my mind. When you gorge on those Kit Kats and Peeps this Easter, just remember how much work I put into this. All I ask for is a little appreciation.  
*This writer can be contacted at features@theeastcarolinian.com.*

**Beach** from page A4



Hanging out with your friends on the beach can be a great escape.

relaxing. The top three beaches in the nation that flaunt all these qualities, guarantee a good time to anyone who visits.  
 In the most recent polls Hawaii was a favorite choice. Two of the top three picks came from Hawaii, Hananma Bay and Kannapall. The reasoning behind this being a crowning place for vacation is pretty obvious: surfing, partying and enjoying the mesmerizing scenery are some of the perks. The third spot is actually a park, St. Joseph Peninsula State Park in Florida which is a different but

equally entertaining approach to the normal beach visits.  
 School is almost over and after finals and the usual end-of-the-year pressures most of us are going to need somewhere to go where we can just soak in the sun and let go of the stress. The beach is notorious for supplying its visitors with the good times they're looking for. Now all you have to do is choose the one that's right for you, pack up your bathing suits and leave everything else behind.  
*This writer can be contacted at features@theeastcarolinian.com.*

**Life** from page A4

or are girls just that good? I'm not quite sure, but as the night went on, we ended up leaving those guys and of course making our way to another club.  
 We got marked in "over" and made our way to the all-you-can-drink spot. Catherine wasn't sure if drinking more was such a good idea, but since it was my first time going out completely single I just couldn't help myself. Of course guys were everywhere and Catherine and I went separate ways to mingle and meet new people. Now that I can look back that probably was not the best of ideas, but at the time we did not care. As unsafe as it was, I met some guy and we ended up dancing together until 2 a.m. and then Pita Pit was on my mind. I have an undying craving for that place, especially late at night.  
 Of course it was crowded and my friend and I could barely

walk to the door. As we got in line I happen to glance over my left shoulder. Who else would be there other than the one and only Jordan? I went up and talked to him, which was the first time we had seen each other since we went our separate ways after Spring Break. He was there with his boys and I was there with some random guy who I couldn't even introduce to him because I kept forgetting his name. I could tell that he was really upset, but the alcohol in me just wouldn't allow me to care. Catherine and I left both of the guys at the restaurant and called a cab back to her apartment.  
 The next day I woke up around 2 p.m., not feeling too bad but with the lingering memory of Jordan's face at the Pita Pit. I felt bad because I know he thinks I am now seeing that guy, when in fact I'm not. When I dug

through my bottomless purse I finally found my cell phone, and when I flipped it open it said 13 missed calls, nine of which were from Jordan along with three text messages and a couple of voice mails. I was so nervous to listen and read the messages, but my curiosity would not have it any other way.  
 I read the texts, which only asked why I wasn't answering his phone calls. Next I began listening to my messages, which only brought tears to my eyes. He explained how he felt seeing me out last night with another guy. He said he just wanted to save me from him and beat the other guy up. I'm not quoting him or anything, but we'll just leave it at that. I didn't really know what to think about the whole situation. I know that I want to be single and just have a good time. I'm not prepared to deal

with the consequences of having a relationship of any kind. I called Jordan back only to let him down again, but he claims that he will be there waiting for me whenever I change my mind. He's a wonderful guy that I don't even deserve. I'm now questioning what I thought I wanted in my life. I know that I can't learn all about myself in two simple weeks. I believe I am going crazy trying to live up to the stereotypical college life, and I'm not quite sure if I am cut out for it. I've been wondering if what I've been doing is really what I want or even who I am. Discovering myself is much harder than I ever imagined. I guess I have nothing but time to complete my personality and work on my karma.  
*This writer can be contacted at features@theeastcarolinian.com.*

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## Sports Briefs

## N.C. State reportedly pursuing Calipari to replace Sendek

(AP) - Rick Barnes decided to remain at Texas. Now, North Carolina State reportedly has turned its attention to Memphis coach John Calipari. The search for Herb Sendek's successor is about 10 days old. According to various reports, Barnes turned down an offer of more than \$2 million a season from N.C. State athletic director Lee Fowler. Barnes is close to a new deal with the Longhorns that includes a significant raise. Soon after getting spurned by Barnes, Fowler and school chancellor James Oblinger flew to Memphis to talk with Calipari, a meeting that reportedly lasted about two hours. ESPN.com reported Monday that Calipari and his staff traveled to Raleigh to visit N.C. State, but The Commercial Appeal in Memphis said in Tuesday's editions that Calipari remained in Memphis. Calipari didn't immediately return a message left by The Associated Press, and neither did Memphis AD R.C. Johnson.

## D.A. to press ahead with investigation of Duke lacrosse team



(AP) - Standing before a mostly black audience, the district attorney in charge of the Duke University rape investigation said Tuesday he does not need DNA to bring charges and vowed, "This case is not going away." District Attorney Mike Nifong spoke one day after defense attorneys said DNA testing failed to connect any of Duke's lacrosse players to the alleged attack on a black stripper who said she was raped at a party by members of the nearly all-white 47-man team. Nifong stopped short of confirming the defense assessment of the DNA results, but said the case would not be hampered by a lack of DNA evidence. No charges have been filed. Nifong said prosecutors were awaiting a second set of DNA results, but did not say how those differed from the tests reported Monday. A spokeswoman for the state attorney general's office said the state crime lab gave all the results of DNA tests it has performed to Nifong on Monday. Nifong added that in 75 percent to 80 percent of sexual assaults, there is no DNA evidence to analyze. The district attorney said a rape case can be built on testimony from the alleged victim and other witnesses. Nifong also said the hospital exam of the woman has led him to believe a crime occurred at the March 13 party.

## Capel takes over as Oklahoma coach

(AP) - Jeff Capel was hired as Oklahoma's basketball coach Tuesday, resigning at Virginia Commonwealth to replace Kelvin Sampson and take over a program under NCAA investigation. Capel was 79-41 in four seasons as coach at VCU. He signed a two-year contract extension last month that ran through 2012. Sampson left to become Indiana's coach March 29. Sampson was 279-109 in 12 seasons at Oklahoma. The Sooners are awaiting a decision from the NCAA in a case involving more than 550 improper recruiting phone calls by Sampson and his staff. The accusations against Oklahoma include "lack of institutional control," one of the NCAA's most serious findings. Capel, whose father is an assistant coach for the Charlotte Bobcats, led VCU to the Colonial Athletic Association title and an NCAA tournament berth in 2004 and then to the NIT in 2005 - the school's first consecutive postseason berths since 1985. His Rams finished this season 19-10 and did not make the postseason after losing to Hofstra in the conference tournament quarterfinals. The signature of his VCU teams was defense. This season, the Rams allowed 62.4 points a game. On offense, they averaged only 12.5 turnovers and made nearly eight 3-pointers a game. Capel inherits an Oklahoma team that loses three of its top four scorers and top three rebounders in seniors Taj Gray, Terrell Everett and Kevin Bookout, but features a strong recruiting class that includes McDonald's All-American guard Scottie Reynolds from Herndon, Va. Capel started 28 games as a freshman guard alongside Grant Hill on Duke's 1994 team that made it to the NCAA championship game but lost to Arkansas. He graduated in 1997, then played in the CBA and in France before beginning his coaching career as an assistant to his father, Jeff Capel Jr., at Old Dominion. He moved to VCU as an assistant in 2001 and became the head coach the following year. At 27, he was the youngest head coach in Division I at the time.

## NFL Draft 2006: Throw it deep



Chad Jackson (left) and Santonio Holmes (right) are two of the most highly touted wide receiver's coming into this April's NFL Draft.

## New class of receivers provides depth, speed

RON CLEMENTS  
STAFF WRITER

Even as a tight end, Maryland's Vernon Davis is considered the best receiver prospect in this year's NFL Draft. Tight ends included, Davis leads a class of receivers that is deep with good receivers, more so than great ones. Davis is one of the few exceptions to the latter.

Only Davis, Georgia's Leonard Pope and UCLA's Marcedes Lewis are expected to be selected at the tight end position on the first day of the draft, which encompasses the first three rounds of the seven-round draft. Davis is the gem of this year's class. Drawing comparisons to Shannon Sharpe, Davis truly is a wide receiver

in a tight end's body. At 6 feet 3 inches, 253 pounds, he is a big target for any quarterback to find in the flat or over the middle. With great hands and a knack for finding holes in the secondary while at College Park, Davis also has great speed for a big man - running the 40-yard dash in 4.38 seconds at this year's combine in Indianapolis.

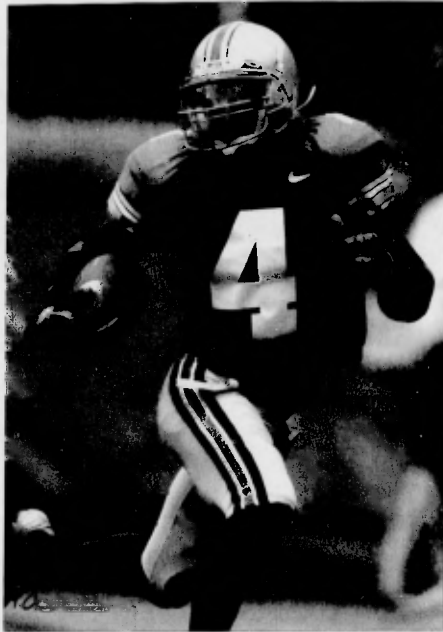
Davis will come off the board within the first 10 picks with San Francisco or Arizona being likely homes for the talented tight end whose skills are not limited to catching the ball. He is also an excellent blocker with good footwork and technique.

After Davis, Georgia's Pope will be the next tight end to go. While not as gifted as Davis, Pope is no slouch. He had a very productive career with the Bulldogs, catching 45 balls for 591 yards

and five scores while starting all 13 games in 2005. The 6-foot-7 Bulldog junior provides huge matchup problems in the NFL and should be a late-first-round or early-second-round pick.

Later in the second round or early third is when Lewis will come off draft boards. Another big receiver at 6 feet 6 inches, 256 pounds, Lewis was the best tight end in the Pac-10 over the last three years. He is too fast for most linebackers, but yet too strong for most safeties to cover. While an excellent receiver, his blocking abilities leave some room for improvement. That aspect of his game should develop with coaching at the next level, but he'd be a great value pick in the third round.

Other tight ends to keep an eye on during day two that could prove to be steals are Southern Cal's Dominique Byrd,



Colorado's Joe Klopfenstein, Notre Dame's Anthony Fasano, Oregon's Tim Day, Tony Scheffler of Western Michigan, North Carolina State's T.J. Williams and the Big Ten's best tight end in 2005, Wisconsin's Owen Daniels.

Scheffler is not the only Western Michigan Bronco who will hear his name called out on draft day. Greg Jennings led the NCAA in receptions in 2005 with 98. He was also third in receiving touchdowns and fourth in yardage. Playing at a small school will hurt him, but a day-one draft choice, he still should be.

Before Jennings goes, there are plenty of receivers who project higher than the NCAA's best statistical receiver from a year ago - showing just how deep this class of wideouts is.

Three receivers stand out from the pack - and all for differ-

ent reasons. Chad Jackson from Florida and Ohio State's Santonio Holmes are 1-2, the order depending on which draft preview you might be reading. Jackson is bigger and stronger while Holmes is faster and had a more productive college career.

Whoever is the first receiver taken will depend on the team need and whether that team wants the smaller Holmes, who is 5 feet 11 inches, 190 pounds, or the freakishly athletic 6-foot-1, 213-pound Jackson. Jackson's stock soared with his incredible strength and conditioning showing at the combine. Jackson was pegged as a possession receiver in college, catching 88 balls for 900 yards - a 10.6-yard average - in his final season as a Gator. The Florida junior squashed that

see NFL page A7

## Taylor's actions way out-of-bounds



Taylor has had more than one run-in with the law and may be facing up to 46 years in prison if convicted.

## Redskins star facing serious prison time

OPINION  
JOSH FERNANDEZ  
STAFF WRITER

I must make two things clear before we begin: one, I lean to the "left-of-center" - what one otherwise may call a liberal. I am a supporter of gun control. I believe the capacity to intentionally or unintentionally kill outweighs the benefit of protection. Specifically, I don't see a purpose in any civilian possessing small firearms, assault weapons, or other firearms not intended for hunting (a sport I don't totally disagree with, but, regardless, does not involve tools of rapid-

fire killing potential.

Second, and much more succinctly, I am a die-hard Washington Redskins fan. The Redskins are one of my most cherished aspects of my life; I was born a Redskins fan and I will die a Redskins fan.

That said, the trial on aggravated assault and battery charges of Redskins safety Sean Taylor, brings us full circle to our starting point, which is my support of gun control and that this sentiment supersedes my love for the team that Taylor happens to play for.

For those unfamiliar with this, an incident pitting Taylor against a possible 46 years in prison, let us review the three days in June of 2005 that led up to the upcoming April 17 trial and one other significant day

that altered the makeup of the prosecution's case against the 23-year-old defendant:

- June 3, 2005: Miami-Dade County police publicly name Taylor as a "person of interest." This is in regard to an assault case involving firearms; Taylor was being sought for questioning. Taylor allegedly was present at, and possibly involved in, an incident on June 1, 2005 in Miami, in which bullets allegedly were fired into a stolen vehicle.

- June 4, 2005: Taylor, accompanied by defense attorney Fred Moldovan, surrenders at 10 p.m. to Miami-Dade Police at the Cutler Ridge district police station. He is then transported to

see TAYLOR page A7

## Pitcher who lost eye back on mound, determined to succeed in college baseball

(AP) - John Fortenberry was shaking hands after a game when an opponent noticed something strange about his right eye.

"It wasn't there. I couldn't find my patch that morning, and they were all staring at me pretty hard," Fortenberry said.

At least Fortenberry can laugh about his frightening injury. He says he's used to the double takes that come with having a patch concealing an empty socket.

Two years after a batted ball struck him in the face and cost him his eye, the sophomore pitcher at East Central Community College has returned to the mound and is determined not to let the injury keep him from playing at a major college.

"He has a disability as far as only having one eye, but as a player he's just like the rest of the guys," said coach Jake Yarborough. "He works hard, and he's got a competitive streak about him. ... If he's interested in (a college scholarship), I think he has a chance."

Fortenberry is 3-2 this season with a 5.76 ERA and 19 strikeouts in 29 innings while pitching with a helmet and cage mask protecting his face. The mask, which resembles those worn by college hockey players and some bullfighters, occasionally blocks his vision when he looks back to second base.

But the right-hander can watch a runner on first when working from the stretch.

"If it had been my left eye, it would have been a lot worse," he said.

Still, what happened to Fortenberry's right eye on Jan. 23, 2004, was pretty gruesome.

Pitching in an intrasquad scrimmage, he threw a fastball outside. The hitter turned on the pitch and drove it into Fortenberry's right cheek.

"It was more of a sound than a sight," said Yarborough, coaching third base at the

time. "You could hear it, it was a smack, and you knew it was bad."

Fortenberry said the impact crushed his eyeball and shattered several facial bones. He crumpled to the ground in what the coach called a bloody mess, but remained conscious as he was taken to a hospital.

"I remember all of it," he said. "I just fell down, grabbed my face, that was all I could think of."

Doctors rebuilt Fortenberry's face with three plates and 29 screws now hold it together, but they couldn't save the eye. A ball made of coral was placed in the socket, wrapped in the network of remaining blood vessels and muscles and tucked behind a black patch - which he'll wear until he receives his prosthetic eye.

"The first couple of days (after the injury), I woke up and thought, 'I'm probably done. I'm not going to play again,'" Fortenberry said. "And then somebody came in and told me I couldn't ever play again, and I don't really like when people say that. So I had to get back out here and show that I could."

He returned to the field before last season, pitching in a sandlot against a semipro team near his hometown of Carthage, Miss., and the first hitter he faced lapped a weak grounder back to the mound.

"I jumped out of the way of it. I was scared," he said. Eventually, his face healed, his courage returned and he pitched for East Central in 2005, going 2-4 as a freshman with a 4.06 ERA with 46 strikeouts in 51 innings.

Yarborough says Fortenberry's fastball tops out at 84 mph, his curveball breaks more sharply than before and, most importantly, no college coach or pro scout can question his toughness.

"I knew he had the determination to come back," Yarborough said.

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# Alabama booster convicted in football recruiting scandal found dead

(AP) — An Alabama booster convicted of bribing a high school football coach to get a top recruit for the Crimson Tide was found dead Tuesday in his Memphis home, and police were investigating it as a homicide.

Police hadn't yet confirmed the body was that of Logan Young, but his defense attorney said it was the Alabama booster.

"We're treating it as a mystery homicide," Sgt. Vince Higgins said in a telephone interview. He said officials assume the victim was Young but needed to use fingerprints and dental records to confirm the identity. A medical examiner was at Young's upscale home near a Memphis country club trying to determine the cause of death.

"Suffice it to say, there was quite a physical struggle in this and this individual was injured severely," he said.

Nashville defense attorney Jim Neal said he had been told the body was found by a housekeeper.

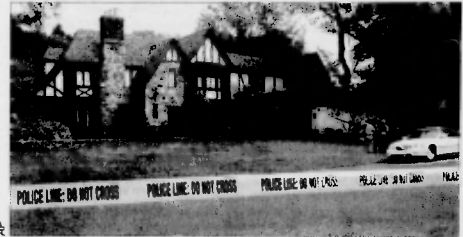
"I've had two or three calls about it, all to the same end, found killed in his home. ...

I heard that there was blood everywhere. That is all I know," Neal said.

Higgins said Young's housekeeper found the body after she arrived for work this morning. The body had not been removed from the house and no family members immediately arrived at the house.

The 65-year-old Young was convicted under federal law of money laundering and racketeering. He was sentenced last June to six months in prison and six months home confinement then two years supervised release. But he had been allowed to remain free pending his appeal. Final briefs in Young's appeal were to be filed by July 14, according to court records.

His attorneys had argued Young needed a kidney transplant and could not get proper medical care in prison. Former high school coach Lynn Lang, who avoided jail time after pleading guilty to taking part in a racketeering conspiracy, testified against Young, saying



Police tape surrounds the home of Alabama booster, Logan Young.

the booster paid \$150,000 to get Means to sign with Alabama in 2000.

The NCAA has said it believed Means was unaware his football talents were being brokered. The player later transferred to Memphis, where he finished his college career.

Lang testified at Young's trial that other universities, including Georgia, Kentucky, Arkansas, Memphis, Mississippi, Michigan State and Tennessee, offered him money or jobs to get Means.

No charges were filed against anyone with those schools. Three former coaches, Rip Scherer of Memphis, Jim Donnan of

Georgia and Alabama assistant Ivy Williams, testified Lang was lying.

Means' recruitment became part of an NCAA investigation that led to sanctions against Alabama in 2002, costing the Crimson Tide scholarships and bowl appearances.

Attorney Tommy Gallion, who represented Williams and former Alabama assistant Ronnie Cottrell in a defamation suit against the NCAA and others, called the news tragic.

"I have no idea who could be

see SCANDAL page A8

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## NFL from page A6

thinking in Indianapolis by demonstrating his speed in the 40 by way of a 4.32 time — the fastest of anyone at the combine.

Holmes was just .02 of a second slower than Jackson, which is still like lightning. Holmes was the spark for the sometimes stagnant Ohio State offense. While he only had 53 catches last season, his amazing 977 yards for an 18.4-yard average and 11 scores stands out. Jackson will probably be the first receiver gone, but Holmes will be right after him.

The third receiver that looks to go in the first round is Miami's Sinorice Moss. Moss is also light-

ning-quick with a 4.38 40-time, but he's only 5-foot-8. The reason scouts are so high on him is his versatility. Like older brother Santana, Moss is a dangerous return man with outstanding hands. White Devin Hester handled most of the return duties for the Hurricanes in 2005. Moss was still a member of the kick return team his senior year, handling five kicks for 88 yards. Invaluable as an all-around special teams player, Moss also blocked three kicks while at Miami.

New Mexico's Hank Baskett will probably be the next receiver taken off the board, early-to-mid-

second round. A great athlete, Baskett was the Mountain West Conference's high jump champion in 2004. He's big, 6 feet 3 inches, 220 pounds, fast and athletic and is easily the best receiver from a non-BCS conference.

All Jason Avant did at Michigan was make big play after big play for the Wolverines over the last two years. Following the departure of Braylon Edwards to the NFL, Avant was able to come out of Edwards' shadow and shine this past season. He led the Wolverines in catches, yards and touchdowns and was a finalist for the Biletnikoff Award in 2005.

Other receivers in this deep pool who should come off the board on day one are Arizona State's Derek Hagan, Notre Dame's Maurice Stovall, Mike Hass of Oregon and Martin Nance from Miami, Ohio. Hass led all receivers in 2005 with 1,532 yards. No other receiver had more than 1,300.

This is the fourth in a series of draft previews. Next week, I will preview the running backs. The NFL Draft is April 29-30 in New York City.

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

## Taylor from page A6

Miami's Turner Guilford Knight correctional facility and, as reported by the Associate Press the next day, is released after posting bond of \$16,500.

June 5, 2005: Miami-Dade police issue a statement indicating that Taylor had been arrested for aggravated assault with a firearm, a felony and battery, a misdemeanor, for allegedly pointing a gun (assault) at a person during a dispute over two all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) that Taylor claimed were stolen from him. Taylor then allegedly left the scene, but returned shortly thereafter and punched one person (battery).

January 28: The Miami-Dade County prosecutor announced that he was filing new charges against Taylor, which would increase his potential jail time from 16 years to the current 46 years, if he is convicted. The new charges include increasing his felony assault charges from one to three, which reflects the allegation that he brandished a firearm at three individuals who Taylor believed stole the ATVs.

So there you have it, the events in their simplest form. Initially, I gave Taylor the benefit of the doubt, not because he's a Redskin, but because I simply had a sneaking suspicion he just didn't do it.

But this isn't the first time Sean's found himself in trouble with the law since becoming a Redskin in 2004. That same year, on Oct. 29, 2004, he was pulled over by Virginia State Police for going 82 in a 55 mph zone. He was then arrested and charged with driving while intoxicated because he declined to take a Breathalyzer test, an offense that carries a mandatory loss of license for one year and is a sure

sign he was most likely drunk and knew he had the money to get out of it.

As you probably have already guessed, he was acquitted of the charges against him; it turns out that after he denied the Breathalyzer test, the arresting officer administered a six-part field sobriety test that the court deemed inconsequential in upholding the conviction (Taylor performed fine on some of the tests, such as tilting his head back and touching his nose three times, but struggled on others. On one, he hopped around and let his foot touch the ground while counting, and on another he missed three letters while saying the alphabet, starting at "c" and ending at "p").

Today, with only five days remaining before the trial, writers like myself are deliberating and ruminating and speculating just like good journalists should. But that's not the scope of my column today.

Let me start by saying that Taylor is entering the third year of a seven-year, \$18 million contract. He has more money than 98 percent (a figure I made up for the sake of argument) of people his age and will surely get his contract restructured pending the result of the trial and his performance in the upcoming 2006 season. It's safe to say he'll get his wish, along with even more millions of dollars than he's already getting.

Taylor was a star at the University of Miami and was drafted fifth overall in the 2004 NFL Draft. He's been in the NFL for two full seasons and has started 29 of the 32 regular season games Washington has played since he became a Redskin, something most NFL rookies don't normally

do. He's been an integral part of the Redskins' defensive strategy, was a leader in their 2005 run to the playoffs, will most likely be around for years to come and consequently, has been in the spotlight the entire time. He's one of the favorites of long-time 'Skins fans for his tough and gritty demeanor; he's also, unfortunately, the role model for a whole generation of young football players.

That said, not only were Taylor's actions wrong and illegal, but, considering his good fortune (he is living the dream of millions of people — getting paid millions of dollars to play a game), the fact that, due to football, he's now set for life, and his uncanny athletic ability, what he did was idiotic, stupid, selfish, immature and about a hundred more adjectives that describe his moronic behavior.

And touching back on my liberalism and opposition to civilians possessing small firearms (just like the one brandished by Taylor), I believe this is a direct result of lax federal gun restrictions, not to mention a consequence of a gun-loving, Second Amendment-adoring, "gotta protect mine, don't care 'bout yours" societal mentality that resides in the collective consciousness of a large portion of American culture and society.

In other words, Sean Taylor, an impulsive (not to mention young, rich and powerful) man who grew up in a society that embraces guns instead of decrying them, decided that brandishing an easily-obtained pistol in the faces of three individuals (not to mention punching one) he assumed stole his property was the ideal way to solve his dilemma.

Sean Taylor, aside from his millions of dollars and huge celebrity, is merely an immature man whose cognitive processes, in regards to solving his personal problems, reflect that of a 15-year-old thug.

The fact of the matter is Taylor is simply in the hands of the law now and there's nothing his money can really do about it. Yes, he posted the \$16,500 bail without so much as a dimple on his checking account. And, yes, he likely is shelling out tens of thousands of dollars (if not more) on legal representation, a luxury that many accused individuals do not have the means of which to pay for. Hey, he's even got his celebrity as a crutch to fall back on — and we all know how easily celebrities, politicians and athletes get out of and recover from jams similar to the one Taylor finds himself in.

But, like I expressed before, at this point, the money doesn't matter because it's at the judge's discretion to decide Taylor's fate after weighing the evidence and arguments, while also considering the circumstances and involved parties. And I hope justice is carried out properly.

Aside from my undying dedication to my favorite team, the team that gave Sean Taylor a whole lot of responsibility and took a huge chance by drafting and signing him, what he did was wrong and he needs to learn to handle his problems civilly and properly. Guns and violence aren't the solution to your problems. As Gandhi once famously said, "Nonviolence is a weapon of the strong" — a sentiment people like Taylor ought to take to heart.

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

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# SPORTS

## Sports Briefs

**N.C. State reportedly pursuing Calipari to replace Sendek**  
 (AP) - Rick Barnes decided to remain at Texas. Now, North Carolina State reportedly has turned its attention to Memphis coach John Calipari. The search for Herb Sendek's successor is about 10 days old. According to various reports, Barnes turned down an offer of more than \$2 million a season from N.C. State athletic director Lee Fowler. Barnes is close to a new deal with the Longhorns that includes a significant raise. Soon after getting spurned by Barnes, Fowler and school chancellor James Olinger flew to Memphis to talk with Calipari, a meeting that reportedly lasted about two hours. ESPN.com reported Monday that Calipari and his staff traveled to Raleigh to visit N.C. State, but The Commercial Appeal in Memphis said in Tuesday's editions that Calipari remained in Memphis. Calipari didn't immediately return a message left by The Associated Press, and neither did Memphis AD R.C. Johnson.

**D.A. to press ahead with investigation of Duke lacrosse team**

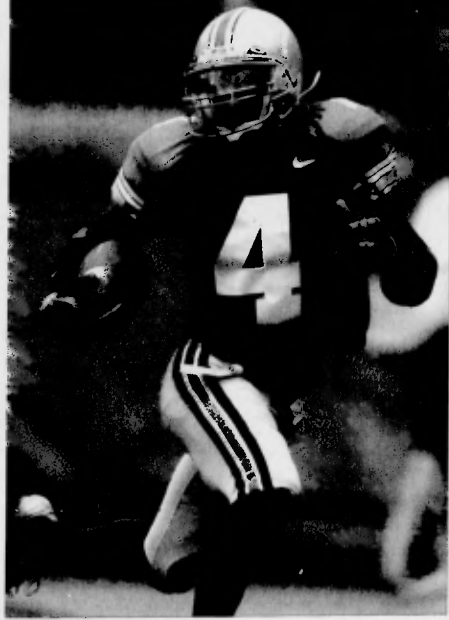


(AP) - Standing before a mostly black audience, the district attorney in charge of the Duke University rape investigation said Tuesday he does not need DNA to bring charges and vowed, "This case is not going away." District Attorney Mike Nifong spoke one day after defense attorneys said DNA testing failed to connect any of Duke's lacrosse players to the alleged attack on a black stripper who said she was raped at a party by members of the nearly all-white 47-man team. Nifong stopped short of confirming the defense assessment of the DNA results, but said the case would not be hampered by a lack of DNA evidence. No charges have been filed. Nifong said prosecutors were awaiting a second set of DNA results, but did not say how those differed from the tests reported Monday. A spokeswoman for the state attorney general's office said the state crime lab gave all the results of DNA tests it has performed to Nifong on Monday. Nifong added that in 75 percent to 80 percent of sexual assaults, there is no DNA evidence to analyze. The district attorney said a rape case can be built on testimony from the alleged victim and other witnesses. Nifong also said the hospital exam of the woman has led him to believe a crime occurred at the March 13 party.

**Capel takes over as Oklahoma coach**

(AP) - Jeff Capel was hired as Oklahoma's basketball coach Tuesday, resigning at Virginia Commonwealth to replace Kelvin Sampson and take over a program under NCAA investigation. Capel was 79-41 in four seasons as coach at VCU. He signed a two-year contract extension last month that ran through 2012. Sampson left to become Indiana's coach March 29. Sampson was 279-109 in 12 seasons at Oklahoma. The Sooners are awaiting a decision from the NCAA in a case involving more than 550 improper recruiting phone calls by Sampson and his staff. The accusations against Oklahoma include "lack of institutional control," one of the NCAA's most serious findings. Capel, whose father is an assistant coach for the Charlotte Bobcats, led VCU to the Colonial Athletic Association title and an NCAA tournament berth in 2004 and then to the NIT in 2005 - the school's first consecutive postseason berths since 1985. His Rams finished this season 19-10 and did not make the postseason after losing to Holstra in the conference tournament quarterfinals. The signature of his VCU teams was defense. This season, the Rams allowed 62.4 points a game. On offense, they averaged only 12.5 turnovers and made nearly eight 3-pointers a game. Capel inherits an Oklahoma team that loses three of its top four scorers and top three rebounders in seniors Taj Gray, Terrell Everett and Kevin Bookout, but features a strong recruiting class that includes McDonald's All-American guard Scottie Reynolds from Hemdon, Va. Capel started 28 games as a freshman guard alongside Grant Hill on Duke's 1994 team that made it to the NCAA championship game but lost to Arkansas. He graduated in 1997, then played in the CBA and in France before beginning his coaching career as an assistant to his father, Jeff Capel Jr., at Old Dominion. He moved to VCU as an assistant in 2001 and became the head coach the following year. At 27, he was the youngest head coach in Division I at the time.

# NFL Draft 2006: Throw it deep



Chad Jackson (left) and Santonio Holmes (right) are two of the most highly touted wide receivers coming into this April's NFL Draft.

## New class of receivers provides depth, speed

RON CLEMENTS  
STAFF WRITER

Even as a tight end, Maryland's Vernon Davis is considered the best receiver prospect in this year's NFL Draft. Tight ends included, Davis leads a class of receivers that is deep with good receivers, more so than great ones. Davis is one of the few exceptions to the latter.

Only Davis, Georgia's Leonard Pope and UCLA's Mercedes Lewis are expected to be selected at the tight end position on the first day of the draft, which encompasses the first three rounds of the seven-round draft. Davis is the gem of this year's class. Drawing comparisons to Shannon Sharpe, Davis truly is a wide receiver

in a tight end's body. At 6 feet 3 inches, 253 pounds, he is a big target for any quarterback to find in the flat or over the middle. With great hands and a knack for finding holes in the secondary while at College Park, Davis also has great speed for a big man - running the 40-yard dash in 4.38 seconds at this year's combine in Indianapolis.

Davis will come off the board within the first 10 picks with San Francisco or Arizona being likely homes for the talented tight end whose skills are not limited to catching the ball. He is also an excellent blocker with good footwork and technique.

After Davis, Georgia's Pope will be the next tight end to go. While not as gifted as Davis, Pope is no slouch. He had a very productive career with the Bulldogs, catching 45 balls for 591 yards

and five scores while starting all 13 games in 2005. The 6-foot-7 Bulldog junior provides huge matchup problems in the NFL and should be a late-first-round or early-second-round pick.

Later in the second round or early third is when Lewis will come off draft boards. Another big receiver at 6 feet 6 inches, 256 pounds, Lewis was the best tight end in the Pac-10 over the last three years. He is too fast for most linebackers, but yet too strong for most safeties to cover. While an excellent receiver, his blocking abilities leave some room for improvement. That aspect of his game should develop with coaching at the next level, but he'd be a great value pick in the third round.

Other tight ends to keep an eye on during day two that could prove to be steals are Southern Cal's Dominique Byrd,

Colorado's Joe Klopfenstein, Notre Dame's Anthony Fasano, Oregon's Tim Day, Tony Scheffler of Western Michigan, North Carolina State's T.J. Williams and the Big Ten's best tight end in 2005, Wisconsin's Owen Daniels.

Scheffler is not the only Western Michigan Bronco who will hear his name called out on draft day. Greg Jennings led the NCAA in receptions in 2005 with 98. He was also third in receiving touchdowns and fourth in yardage. Playing at a small school will hurt him, but a day-one draft choice, he still should be.

Before Jennings goes, there are plenty of receivers who project higher than the NCAA's best statistical receiver from a year ago - showing just how deep this class of wideouts is.

Three receivers stand out from the pack - and all for different

reasons. Chad Jackson from Florida and Ohio State's Santonio Holmes are 1-2, the order depending on which draft preview you might be reading. Jackson is bigger and stronger while Holmes is faster and had a more productive college career.

Whoever is the first receiver taken will depend on the team need and whether that team wants the smaller Holmes, who is 5 feet 11 inches, 190 pounds, or the freakishly athletic 6-foot-1, 213-pound Jackson. Jackson's stock soared with his incredible strength and conditioning showing at the combine. Jackson was pegged as a possession receiver in college, catching 88 balls for 900 yards - a 10.6-yard average - in his final season as a Gator. The Florida junior squashed that

see NFL page A7

# Taylor's actions way out-of-bounds



Taylor has had more than one run-in with the law and may be facing up to 46 years in prison if convicted.

## Redskins star facing serious prison time

OPINION  
JOSH FERNANDEZ  
STAFF WRITER

I must make two things clear before we begin: one, I lean to the "left-of-center" - what one otherwise may call a liberal. I am a supporter of gun control. I believe the capacity to intentionally or unintentionally kill outweighs the benefit of protection. Specifically, I don't see a purpose in any civilian possessing small firearms, assault weapons, or other firearms not intended for hunting (a sport I don't totally disagree with, but, regardless, does not involve tools of rapid-

fire killing potential.

Second, and much more succinctly, I am a die-hard Washington Redskins fan. The Redskins are one of my most cherished aspects of my life; I was born a Redskins fan and I will die a Redskins fan.

That said, the trial on aggravated assault and battery charges of Redskins safety Sean Taylor, brings us full circle to our starting point, which is my support of gun control and that this sentiment supersedes my love for the team that Taylor happens to play for.

For those unfamiliar with this, an incident pitting Taylor against a possible 46 years in prison, let us review the three days in June of 2005 that led up to the upcoming April 17 trial and one other significant day

that altered the makeup of the prosecution's case against the 23-year-old defendant:

- June 3, 2005: Miami-Dade County police publicly name Taylor as a "person of interest." This is in regards to an assault case involving firearms; Taylor was being sought for questioning. Taylor allegedly was present at, and possibly involved in, an incident on June 1, 2005 in Miami, in which bullets allegedly were fired into a stolen vehicle.
- June 4, 2005: Taylor, accompanied by defense attorney Fred Moldovan, surrenders at 10 p.m. to Miami-Dade Police at the Cutler Ridge district police station. He is then transported to

see TAYLOR page A7

# Pitcher who lost eye back on mound, determined to succeed in college baseball

(AP) - John Fortenberry was shaking hands after a game when an opponent noticed something strange about his right eye.

It wasn't there.

"I couldn't find my patch that morning, and they were all staring at me pretty hard," Fortenberry said.

At least Fortenberry can laugh about his frightening injury. He says he's used to the double takes that come with having a patch concealing an empty socket.

Two years after a batted ball struck him in the face and cost him his eye, the sophomore pitcher at East Central Community College has returned to the mound and is determined to let the injury keep him from playing at a major college.

"He has a disability as far as only having one eye, but as a player he's just like the rest of the guys," said coach Jake Yarborough. "He works hard, and he's got a competitive streak about him... if he's interested in (a college scholarship), I think he has a chance."

Fortenberry is 3-2 this season with a 5.76 ERA and 19 strikeouts in 29 innings while pitching with a helmet and cage mask protecting his face. The mask, which resembles those worn by college hockey players and some bullriders, occasionally blocks his vision when he looks back to second base.

But the right-hander can watch a runner on first when working from the stretch.

"If it had been my left eye, it would have been a lot worse," he said.

Still, what happened to Fortenberry's right eye on Jan. 23, 2004, was pretty gruesome. Pitching in an intrasquad scrimmage, he threw a fastball outside. The hitter turned on the pitch and drove it into Fortenberry's right cheek.

"It was more of a sound than a sight," said Yarborough, coaching third base at the

time. "You could hear it, it was a smack, and you knew it was bad."

Fortenberry said the impact crushed his eyeball and shattered several facial bones. He crumpled to the ground in what the coach called a bloody mess, but remained conscious as he was taken to a hospital.

"I remember all of it," he said. "I just fell down, grabbed my face. That was all I could think of."

Doctors rebuilt Fortenberry's face with three plates and 29 screws now hold it together, but they couldn't save the eye. A ball made of coral was placed in the socket, wrapped in the network of remaining blood vessels and muscles and tucked behind a black patch - which he'll wear until he receives his prosthetic eye.

"The first couple of days (after the injury), I woke up and thought, 'I'm probably done. I'm not going to play again,'" Fortenberry said. "And then somebody came in and told me I couldn't ever play again, and I don't really like when people say that. So I had to get back out here and show that I could."

He returned to the field before last season, pitching in a sandlot against a semipro team near his hometown of Carthage, Miss., and the first hitter he faced tapped a weak grounder back to the mound.

"I jumped out of the way of it. I was scared," he said.

Eventually, his face healed, his courage returned and he pitched for East Central in 2005, going 2-4 as a freshman with a 4.06 ERA with 46 strikeouts in 51 innings.

Yarborough says Fortenberry's fastball tops out at 84 mph, his curveball breaks more sharply than before and, most importantly, no college coach or pro scout can question his toughness.

"I knew he had the determination to come back," Yarborough said.

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Alabama booster convicted in football recruiting scandal found dead

(AP) - An Alabama booster convicted of bribing a high school football coach to get a top recruit for the Crimson Tide was found dead Tuesday in his Memphis home, and police were investigating it as a homicide.

Police hadn't yet confirmed the body was that of Logan Young, but his defense attorney said it was the Alabama booster.

"We're treating it as a mystery homicide," Sgt. Vince Higgins said in a telephone interview.

He said officials assume the victim was Young but needed to use fingerprints and dental records to confirm the identity. A medical examiner was at Young's upscale home near a Memphis country club trying to determine the cause of death.

"Suffice it to say, there was quite a physical struggle in this and this individual was injured severely," he said.

Nashville defense attorney Jim Neal said he had been told the body was found by a housekeeper.

"I've had two or three calls about it, all to the same end, found killed in his home. ...

I heard that there was blood everywhere. That is all I know," Neal said.

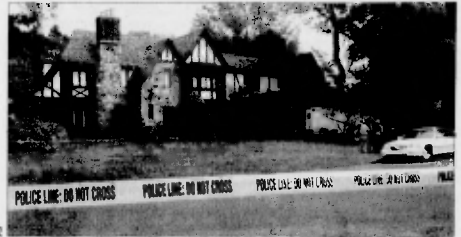
Higgins said Young's housekeeper found the body after she arrived for work this morning. The body had not been removed from the house and no family members immediately arrived at the house.

The 65-year-old Young was convicted under federal law of money laundering and racketeering conspiracy in the case involving the peddling of defensive lineman Albert Means.

Young was sentenced last June to six months in prison and six months home confinement then two years supervised release. But he had been allowed to remain free pending his appeal. Final briefs in Young's appeal were to be filed by July 14, according to court records.

His attorneys had argued Young needed a kidney transplant and could not get proper medical care in prison.

Former high school coach Lynn Lang, who avoided jail time after pleading guilty to taking part in a racketeering conspiracy, testified against Young, saying



Police tape surrounds the home of Alabama booster, Logan Young.

the booster paid \$150,000 to get Means to sign with Alabama in 2000.

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No charges were filed against anyone with those schools. Three former coaches, Rip Scherer of Memphis, Jim Donnan of

Georgia and Alabama assistant Ivy Williams, testified Lang was lying.

Means' recruitment became part of an NCAA investigation that led to sanctions against Alabama in 2002, costing the Crimson Tide scholarships and bowl appearances.

Attorney Tommy Gallion, who represented Williams and former Alabama assistant Ronnie Cottrell in a defamation suit against the NCAA and others, called the news tragic.

"I have no idea who could be

see SCANDAL page A8

NFL from page A6

thinking in Indianapolis by demonstrating his speed in the 40 by way of a 4.32 time - the fastest of anyone at the combine.

Holmes was just .02 of a second slower than Jackson, which is still like lightning. Holmes was the spark for the sometimes stagnant Ohio State offense. While he only had 53 catches last season, his amazing 977 yards for an 18.4-yard average and 11 scores stands out. Jackson will probably be the first receiver gone, but Holmes will be right after him.

The third receiver that looks to go in the first round is Miami's Snorice Moss. Moss is also light-

ning-quick with a 4.38 40-time, but he's only 5-foot-8. The reason scouts are so high on him is his versatility. Like older brother Santana, Moss is a dangerous return man with outstanding hands. While Devin Hester handled most of the return duties for the Hurricanes in 2005, Moss was still a member of the kick return team his senior year, handling five kicks for 88 yards. Invaluable as an all-around special teams player, Moss also blocked three kicks while at Miami.

New Mexico's Hank Baskett will probably be the next receiver taken off the board, early-to-mid-

second round. A great athlete, Baskett was the Mountain West Conference's high jump champion in 2004. He's big, 6 feet 3 inches, 220 pounds, fast and athletic and is easily the best receiver from a non-BCS conference.

All Jason Avant did at Michigan was make big play after big play for the Wolverines over the last two years. Following the departure of Braylon Edwards to the NFL, Avant was able to come out of Edwards' shadow and shine this past season. He led the Wolverines in catches, yards and touchdowns and was a finalist for the Biletnikoff Award in 2005.

Other receivers in this deep pool who should come off the board on day one are Arizona State's Derek Hagan, Notre Dame's Maurice Stovall, Mike Hass of Oregon and Martin Nance from Miami, Ohio. Hass led all receivers in 2005 with 1,532 yards. No other receiver had more than 1,300.

This is the fourth in a series of draft previews. Next week, I will preview the running backs. The NFL Draft is April 29-30 in New York City.

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

Taylor from page A6

Miami's Turner Guilford Knight correctional facility and, as reported by the Associate Press the next day, is released after posting bond of \$16,500.

June 5, 2005: Miami-Dade police issue a statement indicating that Taylor had been arrested for aggravated assault with a firearm, a felony and battery, a misdemeanor, for allegedly pointing a gun (assault) at a person during a dispute over two all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) that Taylor claimed were stolen from him. Taylor then allegedly left the scene, but returned shortly thereafter and punched one person (battery).

January 28: The Miami-Dade County prosecutor announced that he was filing new charges against Taylor, which would increase his potential jail time from 16 years to the current 46 years, if he is convicted. The new charges include increasing his felony assault charges from one to three, which reflects the allegation that he brandished a firearm at three individuals who Taylor believed stole the ATVs.

So there you have it, the events in their simplest form. Initially, I gave Taylor the benefit of the doubt, not because he's a Redskin, but because I simply had a sneaking suspicion he just didn't do it.

But this isn't the first time Sean's found himself in trouble with the law since becoming a Redskin in 2004. That same year, on Oct. 29, 2004, he was pulled over by Virginia State Police for going 82 in a 55 mph zone. He was then arrested and charged with driving while intoxicated because he declined to take a Breathalyzer test, an offense that carries a mandatory loss of license for one year and is a sure

sign he was most likely drunk and knew he had the money to get out of it.

As you probably have already guessed, he was acquitted of the charges against him; it turns out that after he denied the Breathalyzer test, the arresting officer administered a six-part field sobriety test that the court deemed inconsequential in upholding the conviction (Taylor performed fine on some of the tests, such as tilting his head back and touching his nose three times, but struggled on others. On one, he hopped around and let his foot touch the ground while counting, and on another he missed three letters while saying the alphabet, starting at "e" and ending at "p").

Today, with only five days remaining before the trial, writers like myself are deliberating and ruminating and speculating just like good journalists should. But that's not the scope of my column today.

Let me start by saying that Taylor is entering the third year of a seven-year, \$18 million contract. He has more money than 98 percent (a figure I made up for the sake of argument) of people his age and will surely get his contract restructured pending the result of the trial and his performance in the upcoming 2006 season. It's safe to say he'll get his wish, along with even more millions of dollars than he's already getting.

Taylor was a star at the University of Miami and was drafted fifth overall in the 2004 NFL Draft. He's been in the NFL for two full seasons and has started 29 of the 32 regular season games Washington has played since he became a Redskin, something most NFL rookies don't normally

do. He's been an integral part of the Redskins' defensive strategy, was a leader in their 2005 run to the playoffs, will most likely be around for years to come and consequently, has been in the spotlight the entire time. He's one of the favorites of longtime 'Skins fans for his tough and gritty demeanor; he's also, unfortunately, the role model for a whole generation of young football players.

That said, not only were Taylor's actions wrong and illegal, but, considering his good fortune (he is living the dream of millions of people - getting paid millions of dollars to play a game), the fact that, due to football, he's now set for life, and his uncanny athletic ability, what he did was idiotic, stupid, selfish, immature and about a hundred more adjectives that describe his moronic behavior.

And touching back on my liberalism and opposition to civilians possessing small firearms (just like the one brandished by Taylor), I believe this is a direct result of lax federal gun restrictions, not to mention a consequence of a gun-loving, Second Amendment-adoring, "gotta protect mine, don't care 'bout yours" societal mentality that resides in the collective consciousness of a large portion of American culture and society.

In other words, Sean Taylor, an impulsive (not to mention young, rich and powerful) man who grew up in a society that embraces guns instead of decrying them, decided that brandishing an easily-obtained pistol in the faces of three individuals (not to mention punching one) he assumed stole his property was the ideal way to solve his dilemma.

Sean Taylor, aside from his millions of dollars and huge celebrity, is merely an immature man whose cognitive processes, in regards to solving his personal problems, reflect that of a 15-year-old tugh.

The fact of the matter is Taylor is simply in the hands of the law now and there's nothing his money can really do about it. Yes, he posted the \$16,500 bail without so much as a dime on his checking account. And, yes, he likely is shelling out tens of thousands of dollars (if not more) on legal representation, a luxury that many accused individuals do not have the means of which to pay for. Hey, he's even got his celebrity as a crutch to fall back on - and we all know how easily celebrities, politicians and athletes get out of and recover from jams similar to the one Taylor finds himself in.

But, like I expressed before, at this point, the money doesn't matter because it's at the judge's discretion to decide Taylor's fate after weighing the evidence and arguments, while also considering the circumstances and involved parties. And I hope justice is carried out properly.

Aside from my undying dedication to my favorite team, the team that gave Sean Taylor a whole lot of responsibility and took a huge chance by drafting and signing him, what he did was wrong and he needs to learn to handle his problems civilly and properly. Guns and violence aren't the solution to your problems. As Gandhi once famously said, "Nonviolence is a weapon of the strong" - a sentiment people like Taylor ought to take to heart.

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

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**Scandal** from page A7

behind this. I was shocked that Phillip Shanks was beaten and this was more shocking," Gallion said in a statement read by his secretary.

Shanks was assisting Gallion on the lawsuit in May 2004 when he was attacked in his office and left unconscious. Key case documents were stolen, he said. No one was ever charged in the case.

Defense attorney Robert Hutton said he last talked with Young last week and called his death a total shock and a real loss.

"He was very generous man. He was generous with people around him. A pastor of a Catholic Church, he asked for money for some program, for the roof or something, and he gave him the money. Logan wasn't even Catholic," Hutton said.

"He was a wonderful character. I really enjoyed him as a person. It's just a horrible tragedy."

His attorneys had argued Young needed a kidney transplant and could not get proper medical care in prison.

Former high school coach

Lynn Lang, who avoided jail time after pleading guilty to taking part in a racketeering conspiracy, testified against Young, saying the booster paid \$150,000 to get Means to sign with Alabama in 2000.

The NCAA has said it believed Means was unaware his football talents were being brokered. The player later transferred to Memphis, where he finished his college career.

Lang testified at Young's trial that other universities, including Georgia, Kentucky, Arkansas, Memphis, Mississippi, Michigan State and Tennessee, offered him money or jobs to get Means.

No charges were filed against anyone with those schools. Three former coaches, Rip Scherer of Memphis, Jim Donnan of Georgia and Alabama assistant Ivy Williams, testified Lang was lying.

Means' recruitment became part of an NCAA investigation that led to sanctions against Alabama in 2002, costing the Crimson Tide scholarships and bowl appearances.

Attorney Tommy Gallion, who represented Williams and

former Alabama assistant Ronnie Cottrell in a defamation suit against the NCAA and others, called the news tragic.

"I have no idea who could be behind this. I was shocked that Phillip Shanks was beaten and this was more shocking," Gallion said in a statement read by his secretary.

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Page A9

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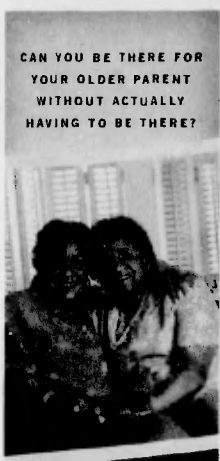
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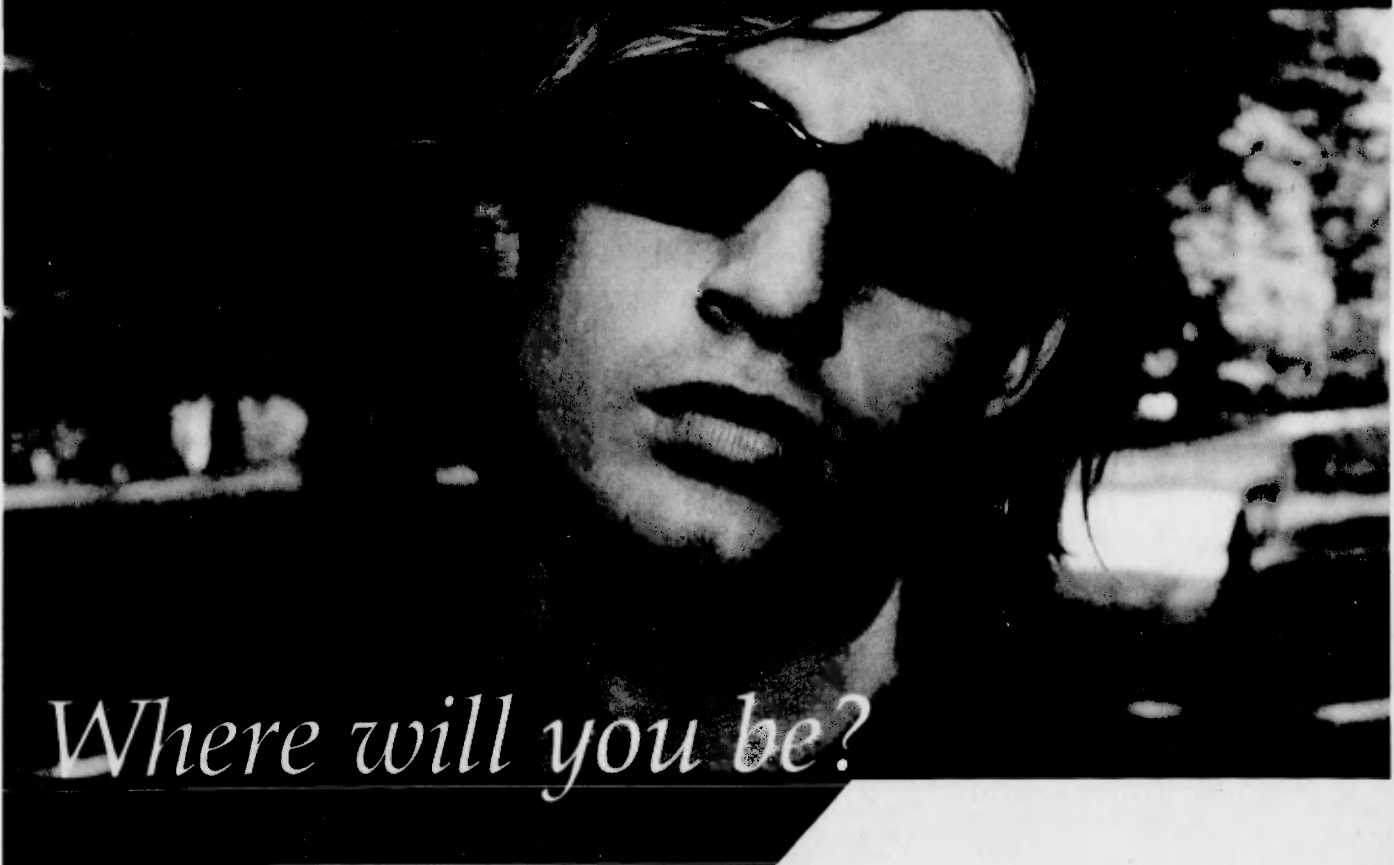
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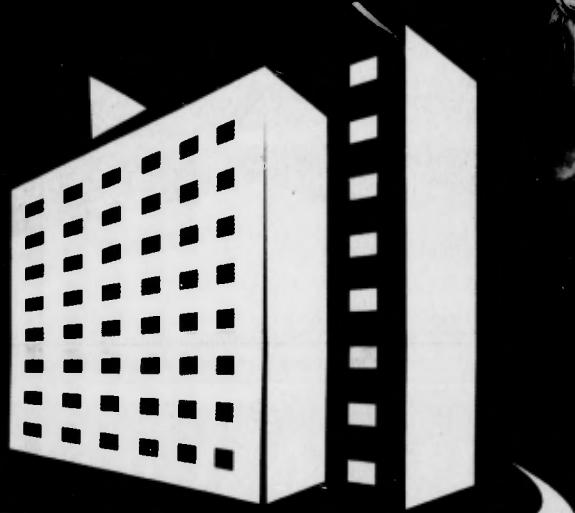
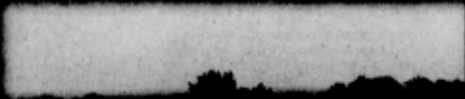
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