



# Early morning fire ravages Cypress Gardens

Investigators still unsure of cause

KEITH S. BYERS  
STAFF WRITER

An early morning blaze damaged 18 units at the Cypress Gardens apartment complex at 1401 E. 10th St., leaving at least 22 people homeless.

The only injury reported was a Greenville firefighter, who hurt his leg when a pressurized hose "backlashed" against it. Capt. Doug Branch of the Greenville Fire-Rescue Department said he could not say what started the fire or which unit it came from at this time.

Amid the broken out windows, blackened walls and gallons of water, students and residents are trying to come to terms with what happened.

"I lost everything," said Chris Farmer, junior political science major, while glassy-eyed with shock.

Farmer said he heard the fire alarms go off around 2:45 a.m.

He said he opened his front door, ran out and could not see anything, but when he ran to the back of his apartment, he could see the fire and smoke. Farmer lived on the third floor of unit 135. Cypress Gardens design has six apartments on

three floors separated by fire-wall columns. The entire back end, where Farmer's apartment was located, was reduced to rubble.

Farmer also said he recently bought a 27-inch TV, and his computer was less than a year old. He also lost three framed Chinese brush paintings he treasured.

"When I left here, I never thought my apartment would be damaged," Farmer said.

"I just thought it would be [damaged from] smoke."

Residents said the fire may have begun in the last unit and worked its way forward, until a cinderblock firewall that separates the units kept

the fire from spreading.

"It was horrible," said junior communication major Lauren Mitchell, whose unit, 138, was damaged mostly by water.

"I didn't get the fire, but pretty much the flood [of water] caused the damage," Mitchell said.

"It burned forever; it burned through the roof and they couldn't get it out."

Her mother, Sharon Musselman, who is from Pittsboro, was standing close by her daughter surveying the damage and planning where the family was going to stay for the night.

"We are getting a reservation

see FIRE page A7



An early fire destroyed 18 units in Cypress Gardens yesterday.

## Greeks hold egg hunt



Children from The Boys and Girls Club ran across ECU grounds yesterday in a race to collect eggs in an Easter egg hunt sponsored by Phi Kappa Tau and Delta Zeta.

Photo by Kyle Fisher

## BDSM denied as campus organization

Members intend to continue practice

HOLLY O'NEAL  
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

The nine members and 50 pending members of an ECU organization for individuals interested in sadomasochist sexuality will not have an official tie to the university.

Dominique Marshall, the group's founder, was informed of the decision last week.

In a letter to Marshall, Vice Chancellor for Student Life Garrie Moore, who approves campus organizations, said he could not approve this group because he felt it didn't support ECU's mission statement.

He explained that his decision was made with the entire university in mind.

"I didn't think the organization presented itself in a professional manner supporting the mission of the university," said Moore.

"I support free speech ... however, I was concerned that I protect students and the general public from a type of group that would insult or present itself in a way that would conflict with appropriateness and standards of civility and common courtesy."

Marshall formed the group, originally called ECU BDSM (bondage, discipline and sadomasochism) in October 2002. She sought university recognition and approval in October 2003.

"I was personally interested in BDSM when I came here as a freshman," said Marshall.

"But there was no group for it. I wanted to go to a place where people would not judge me, and I saw other students needed that as well."

Photo by Kyle Fisher

But in November 2003, the university attorney's office requested Marshall not use ECU's name or school colors in connection with her as-yet unofficial organization, particularly since its activities were not supported by ECU.

The group had a Web site with information about joining. Moore said he thought the pictures on the site, which has since been taken down, were "extreme" and not indicative of "typical college students."

Marshall went to Laura Sweet, the university ombudsman. As ombudsman, Sweet assists members of the campus community by listening to complaints, offering options, facilitating resolutions and impartially investigating issues.

Sweet said safety was on the minds of the administration.

"People within the ECU community could join, and their safety might be jeopardized ... or unscrupulous people might join," said Sweet.

ECU BDSM's constitution extends full membership to ECU and Pitt County Community College faculty, staff, students, alumni and Greenville-area residents.

Though the mission of ECU



These were the props BDSM members used.

does not explicitly mention student safety, Sweet said safety "figures in" to it.

She said the sexual lifestyle promoted by the organization was never included in discussions between Marshall and administration.

Not all students are advocates of the BDSM lifestyle, but they support the notion that club rights should be extended to everyone.

"You should be allowed to have any club you want," said Jessica Odom, junior interior design major.

Junior painting major Miranda Shipman agreed.

"If they allow role playing to have a club, anyone should be allowed to have one," said Shipman.

"I don't see what's wrong with it [BDSM]. I can see where the administration's coming from, but if it's not hurting any other students or causing an outrage on campus, why not have it?"

Regarding safety issues, Shipman said the people who pursue these activities do so at their own risk and know what they're getting into. However, she said the school's

see BDSM page A6

## Scam artist preys on students with offer to join Outstanding Student Honor Society

ECU officials show concern for message

ERIN RICKERT  
NEWS EDITOR

College is a time for people to build their futures. When an opportunity presents itself to enhance reputation and validate achievement, many students assume it is worthwhile.

But recently someone has been preying on students' needs for recognition. An e-mail was

many factual things about honor societies.

OSHS boasts that students may put the company on their resume and students will be awarded a lifetime membership.

Like legitimate honor societies, OSHS also claims another company, Outstanding Student Consortium, accredits it.

OSHS and OSC are even more suspicious because both company names are vague and neither is credited by a national society.

Both companies also share the same California address, which as reported in article from Binghamton University, is actually just a mail drop.

According to www.whois.net, which lists domain name information, Simon Chan was found to have created the Web site on Feb. 23, 2003 still listing OSHS and OSC together.

And the Better Business Bureau of Silicon Valley said the Outstanding Student Consortium "has an unsatisfactory record with the Bureau."

The report specifically states that their records "show

a pattern of non-response to consumer complaints."

The East Carolinian's repeated attempts to contact the director of OSHS were unsuccessful.

Ben Irons, university attorney, said after he sent a warning to ECU students about the e-mail, many students sent back notes informing him they had already given money to OSHS. Yet ECU students are not the only ones to be deceived by this scam, students across the country have been affected.

In an online bulletin board found at [www.hanashika.com/whitecat/archives/0000.69.html](http://www.hanashika.com/whitecat/archives/0000.69.html), several students have expressed concern over the honor society's credibility.

"After becoming a member, an individual is supposed to have full access to Outstanding Student Consortium, but ... no such luck," said a student who chose to remain anonymous on the site, but used the name Daniel.

"I figured I was receiving another offer based on my past performance in school."

see HONOR page A7

## Joyner Library to get jolt of java

Library aims to be more comfortable, appealing to students

DANIEL SHUMAN  
STAFF WRITER

The pounding hammers and squealing drills in Joyner Library will soon be replaced by calls for Café Mochas and Caribbean Coolers when the construction of a new, full-service Java City is complete.

Allison Metcalf, marketing program manager for Aramark at ECU, said the \$100,000 project, scheduled for completion for the fall semester, came about as a reaction to student requests.

"The reason it's going in is that we did a survey three and a half or four years ago, and there were students who actually asked for something like that to get to Joyner Library," said Metcalf.

The upcoming completion of the coffee shop is the most visible part of a plan to make the library more inviting and comfortable to students.

John Lawrence, associate director for administrative and user services at Joyner, said they

want to make the coffee shop

area a place where students can take a break from studying or just relax. For that reason, they will add a leisure reading section with popular books and magazines. Library administrators said they aim to create a Barnes and Noble type of atmosphere.

"The idea is to increase traffic and comfort with the building," said Lawrence.

"We've had lots of students who find this an intimidating place and could use it being more inviting. They avoid it otherwise, and we don't want that to be the case ... it's always shocking how many students tell you in their senior year, 'I've never been to the library.'"

Carroll Varner, director of academic library services, agreed.

"The real, overarching reason we're doing it is that the



Student Stacy Howell purchases coffee from Java City in Mendenhall Student Center.

library needs to be a welcoming space," said Varner.

"We're getting more students enrolled every year, and the university can be a pretty big, impersonal place. Students come in [to the library] with their parents during orientation because everybody wants to see the library. It makes them feel good. We thought it would be a very warm kind of reception."

Ashley Everett, junior business management major, said she thought the changes were a good idea.

see JAVA page A3

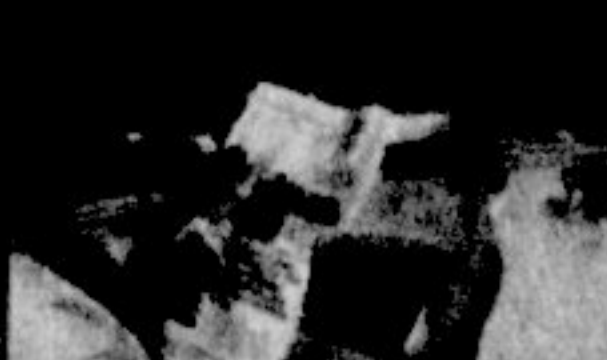
### Sexual Assault Awareness throughout April

The United States has the highest rape rate among countries that report such statistics. It is four times higher than in Germany, 13 times higher than in England and 20 times higher than in Japan.

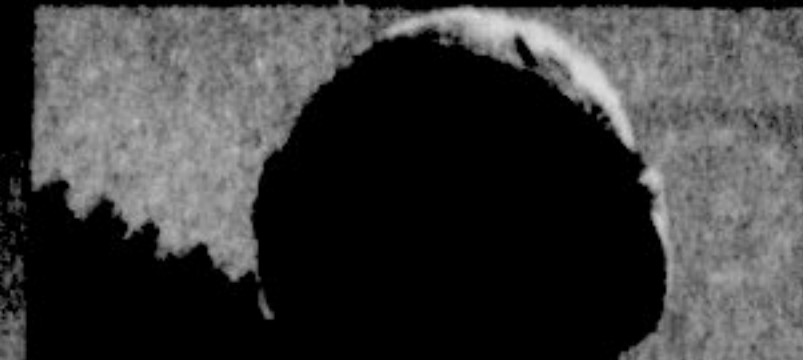
Sixty-four percent of rape survivors did not report the crime to the police.



Thunderstorms High of 72



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Donald Rumsfeld said American soldiers were facing "a test of will." Visit [www.theeastcarolinian.com](http://www.theeastcarolinian.com) for more info.



For information and hours on all the campus locations that will remain open over Easter break, see page A2.



ECU student Anthony DiStefano runs his converted diesel engine Mercedes Benz on vegetable oil.



ECU's baseball team will face Conference-USA rivals University of South Florida this weekend.



and Sunday, April 9 - 10 due to the Easter Holiday. Regular class schedules will resume Monday.

# tec

## NEWS

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## Announcements

### Summer and Fall Registration

Registration for summer sessions and fall 2004 semester is currently open.

### State Holiday

Classes will not be held Friday and Saturday, April 9 - 10.

### Business Ownership Workshop

Learn how to get started in business at an introduction to business ownership workshop Wednesday, April 14 from 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. in the Willis Building Auditorium.

### Technology and Teaching Conference

The College of Education will co-sponsor the Southeastern Regional Technology and Teaching Conference at the Greenville Hilton Wednesday, April 14 - Friday, April 16. Contact Diane D. Kester at 328-6621 for more information.

### Adviser's Appreciation Reception

A reception honoring student advisors will take place Thursday, April 15 from 4 p.m. - 6 p.m. in Mendenhall Great Room 3. Students can nominate any advisor at ECU.

### Job Search Workshop

The Office of Student Professional Development offers a workshop on tools students can use in their job searches. The workshop will be Thursday, April 15 from 5 p.m. - 6 p.m. in 1014 Bate.

### Social Justice Institute

NPR broadcaster and author Juan Williams will speak in recognition of the 50th anniversary of the Brown v. Board of Education decision Thursday, April 15 from 7 p.m. - 8 p.m. in the Mendenhall Great Room. Tickets are required but free at the Central Ticket Office in MSC.

### Integration Discussion

In celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Brown v. the Board of Education decision, historian David Dennard, Ph.D., political analyst Tinsley Yarbrough, Ph.D. and attorney Robert White will discuss the historical, political and legal landscapes of the state before and after the decision. The discussion will be Tuesday, April 20 at 3 p.m. in 221 Mendenhall.

### Oratorical Exhibition

The School of Communication sponsors an oratorical exhibition Thursday, April 22 at 6:30 p.m. in Wright Auditorium, featuring the best speakers in COMM 2410 and 2420.

### Co-ops and Internships Workshop

The Office of Student Professional Development offers a workshop Thursday, April 22 from 2 p.m. - 3 p.m. in 1012 Bate to assist students looking for co-op and internship opportunities.

### Education Graduate Fair

The College of Education will hold a graduate programs fair Saturday, April 24 from 9 a.m. - noon at the Speight Building. Information will be available for students who wish to pursue a graduate degree for work in educational settings or obtain alternative licensure. Registration and reception begin at 8:45 a.m.

### Commencement Registration

Degree candidates who wish to participate in the May 8 ceremony must make a reservation through Onestop.

### Paper Person

The student featured at the top of today's paper is Sibyl Haynes, freshman business major.

## News Briefs

### Local

#### Easley says tourism fuels NC economic growth

CHARLOTTE (AP) - Though the state's economy remains plagued by layoffs in traditional industries like textiles and furniture, North Carolina maintained its standing as the sixth most-visited state in America in 2003, Gov. Mike Easley told tourism officials Tuesday.

"The tourism industry has braved a couple of tough years, but you've made progress every single year, unlike many other states," Easley told more than 400 tourism professionals at the Governor's Conference on Tourism in Charlotte.

Last year represented an up tick for the industry in North Carolina on almost every front. Some 49.3 million visitors came to North Carolina last year, spending \$12.6 billion and contributing about \$1.1 billion to state and local tax coffers.

In 2002, the state attracted about 44 million visitors, who spent about \$12.4 billion.

#### Animal lovers pack hearing over proposed pet food tax

RALEIGH (AP) - An overflow crowd of pet lovers, breeders and hunters jammed a legislative committee meeting room Tuesday to praise and condemn a measure that seeks to reduce animal neglect through a tax hike on pet food.

Some 300 people were present for the unveiling of the so-called "Puppy Chow penalty" proposal

that is designed to stop dog and cat overpopulation in North Carolina and raise standards at public animal shelters.

More than 227,000 cats and dogs were taken to North Carolina shelters and euthanized in 2001, and the state's pet euthanasia rate is more than double the national average. One way to reduce the death toll, say legislators, is to place an "assessment" on pet food manufacturers equal to 10 cents per 20-pound bag of food and about 2 cents for every can. When passed on to pet owners, it could generate as much as \$8 million annually.

### National

#### Republicans try again to curb medical malpractice lawsuits

WASHINGTON (AP) - Senate Republicans are trying for a third time to persuade Democrats to curb medical malpractice lawsuits and help alleviate what proponents of limits call a health care crisis.

"The ultimate victims are the patients who see their access to care, to that obstetricians, to that emergency room, to that trauma center, threatened and in some cases, that access totally disappearing," Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist, R-Tenn., said Tuesday as the Senate prepared for another vote on medical malpractice legislation. Republicans on Wednesday will try to overcome a Democratic blockade on the medical malpractice legislation. Senate Republicans and President

Bush have argued that the measure - which would set caps on damages - could help reduce unnecessary lawsuits that make it harder for doctors to practice. They've said the lawsuits drive up obstetricians' and gynecologists' insurance costs.

#### Voters in Los Angeles suburb reject Wal-Mart measure

INGLEWOOD, Calif. (AP) - Voters rejected a ballot measure that would have cleared the way for a colossal Wal-Mart in this Los Angeles suburb, one of several communities across the nation to resist the retailer's advances.

Activists who opposed the measure - which would have allowed Wal-Mart to skirt zoning, traffic and environmental reviews - said it would hurt the community by inviting the Supercenter to drive out small business and encourage sprawl. With all 29 precincts and absentee ballots counted late Tuesday night, Inglewood voters opposed the measure 60.6 percent to 39.3 percent, said Gabby Contreras of the city clerk's office.

### World

#### Rwandans bury remains to start week of mourning to mark 10th anniversary of 1994 genocide

KIGALI, Rwanda (AP) - Survivors of the 1994 genocide in Rwanda on Wednesday buried the remains of hundreds of victims recovered from pit-latrines and mass graves

to mark the 10th anniversary of the government-orchestrated slaughter that left more than 500,000 people dead.

The symbolic burial on a hillside marked the beginning of a week of mourning for the Tutsis and political moderates from the Hutu majority who were killed during the 100-day slaughter that tore apart this small central African nation.

The remains of hundreds, locked in 19 communal coffins, will be lowered into tombs by families and genocide survivors keen to give loved ones a ritual burial years after they were killed by their neighbors under the orders of the extremist Hutu government then in power.

#### German court orders release of only Sept. 11 suspect ever convicted

HAMBURG, Germany (AP) - The only Sept. 11 suspect ever convicted was freed by a Hamburg court Wednesday pending the outcome of his retrial on charges of aiding the suicide pilots. Mounir El Motassadeq, 30, has been serving a maximum 15-year prison term in Hamburg since a court in the city convicted him in February 2003 of giving logistical help to the Hamburg al-Qaida cell that included three of the Sept. 11 pilots.

He was ordered freed on condition that he stay in Hamburg and not be issued a new passport, said Sabine Westphalen, spokeswoman for the Hamburg state court. El Motassadeq's whereabouts were not immediately known.

## Easter Holiday Hours

### Libraries

#### A. J. Fletcher Music Library

April 9 - 10 - Closed  
April 11 - 6 p.m. - 10 p.m.

#### Joyner Library

April 8 - 7:30 a.m. - 11 p.m.  
April 9 - 10 - Closed  
April 11 - 4 p.m. - 2 a.m.

#### Laupus Library

April 8 - 7:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.  
April 9 - Closed  
April 10 - 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
April 11 - 3 p.m. - 10 p.m.

### Dowdy Student Stores

April 9 - 10 - Closed  
April 11 - Closed

### University Book Exchange

April 9 - 11 - Closed

### Computer Labs

**Austin**  
April 8 - 24-hour operation, close at 7 p.m.  
April 9 - 11 - Closed  
April 12 - Reopens at 8 a.m.

#### Aycock

April 8 - 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.  
April 9 - Noon - 6 p.m.  
April 10 - Noon - 6 p.m.  
April 11 - 3 p.m. - 2 a.m.

#### Foreign language lab (2009 Bate)

April 9 - 11 - Closed

#### Mendenhall Basement

April 9 - 11 - Closed

#### ITEC lab (107, 108 Rawl)

April 8 - 7:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.  
April 9 - 11 - Closed

#### Umstead

April 8 - 9 - 1 p.m. - 9 p.m.  
April 10 - Closed  
April 11 - 3 p.m. - 2 a.m.

#### White

April 9 - 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.  
April 10 - Noon - 6 p.m.  
April 11 - 3 p.m. - 2 a.m.

### Dining

#### Center Court

April 8 - 6:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.  
April 9 - 10 - 11:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.  
April 11 - Closed

#### Croatan

April 9 - 11 - Closed

#### Todd Dining

April 9 - 11 - 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

#### MSC Java City

April 8 - 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
April 9 - 11 - Closed

#### Pirate Market

April 8 - 7 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
April 9 - 10 - Closed  
April 11 - 5 p.m. - 1 a.m.

#### Mendenhall Dining

April 9 - 11 - Closed

#### Spot

April 8 - 8 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.  
April 9 - 10 - Noon - 7:30 p.m.  
April 11 - Noon - 11 p.m.

#### Wright Place

April 9 - 11 - Closed

#### Wright Place Java City

April 9 - 11 - Closed

#### Galley

April 8 - 7:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
April 9 - 10 - Closed  
April 11 - 5 p.m. - 1 a.m.

### Student Recreation Center

April 8 - 6 a.m. - 8 p.m.  
April 9 - 10 - 11 a.m. - 8 p.m.  
April 11 - Closed

### Student Health Service and Pharmacy

April 9 - 11 - Closed

### Mendenhall Student Center

Close at 5 p.m.  
April 9 - 11 - Closed

### Cashiers Office

April 9 - 11 - Closed

### Student Professional Development

April 9 - 11 - Closed

### Financial aid office

April 9 - 11 - Closed

### Registrars office

April 9 - 11 - Closed

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## Java from page A1

"I would probably go there if they had that [Java City]," said Everett.

"In-library coffee bars are a growing trend among universities, and schools such as NC State and the University of Virginia already have them," said Varner.

He said that because of food and drinks being sold inside the library, Joyner will be lifting its food ban for the first time in its history.

Both Varner and Lawrence said that other universities who have done the same thing reported students became more conscientious about trash and spills in the library since they are not afraid of getting punished for breaking the rules, so there is not a great concern that the presence of food will cause problems for maintenance and cleaning staff.

However, just to make sure that valuable library assets are kept safe from accidents, library administrators hope to add some

bistro-style tables and seating areas on the first floor that will encourage students to eat and drink downstairs to help keep trash from accumulating on the upper floors.

Computer areas and special collections will still not allow food since the potential damage is much greater there. Signs will mark areas where food is allowed and where it is not.

Despite the fact that Joyner is open until 2 a.m., library administrators said the coffee shop will hold hours similar to other campus dining spots.

Since Joyner has all-day hours before and during exams, they will look into the possibility of longer serving hours or some form of self-serve coffee for late night scholars.

"We'll listen to what students want ... it would make sense, if we're going to be open 24 hours, to have extended services or a self-serve system or something

that would help people out [at later hours]," Varner said.

Assistant Vice Chancellor of Student Life, Bill Clutter, said most construction should be finished in May.

After that, the prefabricated material from Java City will be installed, and they will begin training employees to staff the location.

They hope to have the coffee shop running sometime during the summer so that they can work out any potential problems. The grand opening will take place at the beginning of the fall semester.

Clutter said ECU plans to include another new Java City location in the West Campus Learning Village, which is under construction and will house The Schools of Nursing and Allied Health and Laupus Library.

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

## Advisers Appreciation Reception

April 15, 2004

4:00 p.m.

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# OPINION

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

## Our View

*In the long run, a pre-determined American agenda may not be what's good for our country or the country that's the target of our "philanthropic" improval efforts.*

Let's face it: The capture of Saddam Hussein hasn't stopped the violence in Iraq. Every day, reports of civilian deaths, armed forces casualties and public unrest dominate the news. The complex results from American intervention in Iraq's problems confuse those who want to tout our heroism and those who say we're murderers. Historically, America's been a country obsessed with a good vs. evil outlook - with the triumph of good overshadowing its cost. We've done some good, undoubtedly. But how do you measure the present and future crisis we've wrought, and do these things ever really balance out? Fires, explosions, protests; American soldiers pointing guns at Iraqis; Iraqis throwing grenades back at them. America (or more appropriately, President Bush) is entrenched in an unanswerable conflict. Deciding what's good or bad in it depends on your nationality and your media's particular type of biased coverage.

The video footage showing four Americans' bodies dragged through Iraqi streets is tremendously upsetting, infuriating and serves as a wake-up call: when you fight because you think you have to, and not because it's needed, there's no end or explanation of the pointless violence that ensues.

And this is not an attempt to spout some cliché anti-war sentiments. We're just looking at the facts - it's easy to get caught up in the "hype" of war and say what's appropriate so as not to appear unpatriotic in your community.

But in the long run, a predetermined American agenda may not be what's good for our country or the country that's the target of our "philanthropic" improval efforts.

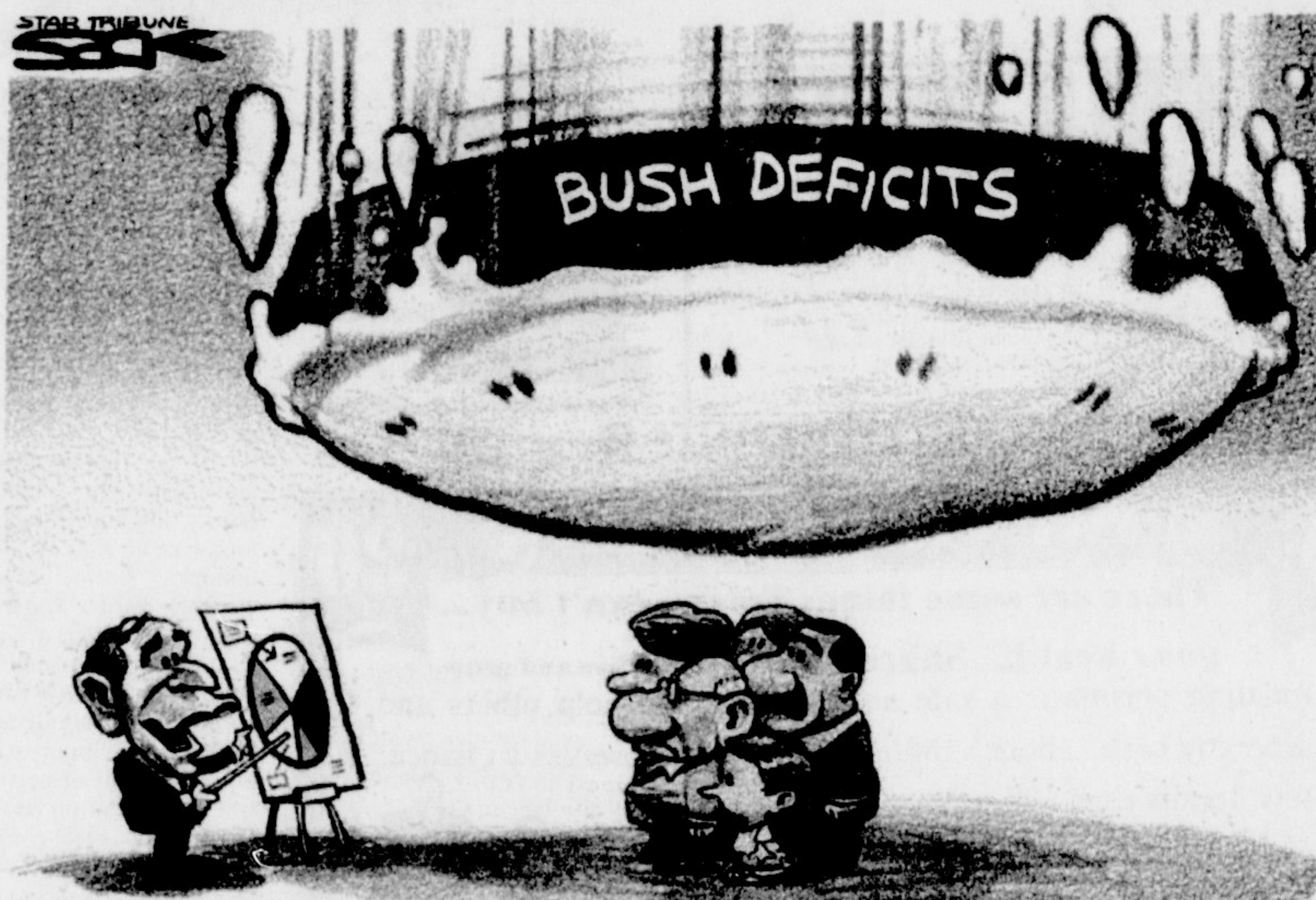
The goal of the TEC Opinion page is to evoke discussion as well as action on topics pertinent to the ECU community.

We encourage a response from our readers. If you have an opinion in reaction to one of our columns or perhaps in regard to the overall presentation of TEC, please express your view in one of four ways: direct a letter or fax to the editor, email a response to the editor or simply phone in a response.

The 20,000 ECU students read our paper on a regular basis. There's no better way to express your opinion than to take the time to sit and react to a situation affecting the students of this university through our Opinion page.

To be printed, the letter must be signed and contain a phone number for verification.

Letters will appear as space permits. The editor reserves the right to edit letters for clarity and length.



'TODAY'S LECTURE: "HOW KERRY ECONOMIC POLICIES WILL HARM AMERICA." — LET'S START WITH THIS PIE CHART'...

## POINT

It's about choice

*Opposition to Unborn Victims of Violence Act is misplaced*

**ANTHONY MCKEE**  
STAFF WRITER

In what was decidedly not an April Fool's Day joke, President Bush signed into law the Unborn Victims of Violence Act, also known as "Laci and Connor's Law." This law is much-needed.

This law, which covers only certain Federal crimes, states that when someone attacks and/or kills a pregnant woman, the criminal will also be charged for the injury/death of her unborn child.

Additionally, this law covers "the child in utero," which is defined in the bill as "a member of the species homo sapiens, at any stage of development, who is carried in the womb."

And, of course, all the abortion groups and their allies, in the media and politics, are screaming that this law will result in the undermining of abortion on demand. Bull!

The Unborn Victims law very specifically states that any abortion that the woman has consented to, any form of medical treatment or any act of the mother, legal or illegal, does not apply. How much more straightforward can it get?

The law protects unborn children against any violence other than abortion. Even with that very plain exemption, the pontificating, chest beating and caterwauling by the abortion crowd continues.

Why? Because these people could not care less whether an unborn child, wanted or unwanted, lives or dies. All they are worried about is semantics.

The defining of "in utero" as being at "any stage of development" is truly what all the howling is about. Abortion supporters do not want any recognition of an unborn child as a human being, period.

They are trying to make us believe that this definition not only will spell the end of abortion and women's rights but that it is not Constitutional.

These assertions are deliberate



and malicious misrepresentations of established facts.

OK, let's call them what they really are - bald-faced lies and blatant propaganda.

There are currently 29 states that have similar laws already on the books.

Of those, 16 provide the same in utero definition that is used in the Unborn Victims Act: Any stage of development.

The remaining states have varying statutes regarding when the law takes effect. In none of these states has access to abortion been limited nor have any abortion practitioners been charged.

Also, despite fierce attempts by abortion supporters, not one law has been repealed or overturned by the courts, including the Supreme Court.

They know the Unborn Victims Act is legal also, yet we are subjected to the hate filled vitriol spewing from their mouths. And conservatives are supposed to be the hateful people in this country. Yeah, right.

Ultimately, the opposition to this bill is misplaced. No law, group of people, judge, government or system decides when life begins. They never have and never will.

In the world of man, the decision whether a fetus is a worthless blob of tissue to be discarded at will or a human being that will be given a chance at life has always been the sole prerogative of one person and one person only: The woman.

The Unborn Victims Act recognizes that decision and punishes someone for depriving a woman of her choice.

And choice is what the pro-abortion crowd is supposed to be all about.

## COUNTERPOINT

Unborn Victims Act approved

*New federal ruling is first step in outlawing abortion*

**PETER KALAJIN**  
STAFF WRITER

Congress recently approved a bill which will change the legal status of an unborn fetus, at any stage of development, to mirror that of a living person.

Nicknamed "Laci and Connor's Bill" for Laci Peterson, the California woman, who along with her unborn son, Connor, was murdered in 2002, the new law would make it a separate charge to kill a fetus during a violent federal crime. Peterson's husband, Scott, has been charged with first-degree murder in both cases.

The new bill comes as a victory for President Bush and his conservative base. Beginning with the Partial Birth Abortion Ban, which was signed into law by the president last year, the new law takes the U.S. Government that much closer to overturning the controversial Roe v. Wade decision, which, in 1973, legalized abortion around the nation. This new law, for so many reasons, is just one more mistake we can chalk up to the Bush administration, one more regressive step in the fight to strip our nation's women of their reproductive rights. While the new law is careful to specify the line between legal and illegal termination of a pregnancy, it is an ominous signal to all of those abortion doctors out there already in fear for their lives because of pro-life and neo-Christian fanaticism.

To me, a person cannot be murdered unless he or she is actually alive, and as far as I am concerned, a pea-sized human embryo in the first stages of development hardly qualifies. Life is that which a person can sustain themselves, independent of the womb, and a woman's right to terminate an unwanted pregnancy should be one of the most fervently protected rights in this country.

Now, I am sure that there are those of you out there who would argue, as many pro-life advocates do, that there is no such thing as an unwanted pregnancy.

Children are gifts from God, and they are all wanted, so on and so forth. However, the unfortunate fact remains that there is such a thing as an unwanted pregnancy, and there is such a thing as sexual irresponsibility.

Many of the major problems facing this country today can be traced directly back to people being born into a home which is either financially unstable, abusive or to



parents simply lacking the maturity to raise a productive member of society. All children may be welcome in the eyes of God, but this, sadly, is not the case in reality.

Consider: A child is born to a poor, undereducated, unemployed mother. Lacking the financial security to effectively support her offspring, she turns to the government for support.

Tax dollars are diverted from other, perhaps more deserving programs, to support a mother who is now trapped by the responsibilities of motherhood and a child with the misfortune of being born into a world either not ready or not capable of supporting it.

Make no mistake, there is such a thing as an unwanted pregnancy. Women can feel trapped between two bad situations. They either forgo the abortion and bring an under-supported, unwanted child into this already overcrowded world, or they suffer the societal and religious stigma which is very often associated with an abortion procedure.

It would be wonderful if everyone in this country was reproductively responsible and only those women wanting to have children would become pregnant, but this is not the real world.

Unsafe sex is rampant, especially among the youth in this country, and just because a 15-year-old is sexually active does not mean that she is in any position to effectively raise a child.

Mental maturity is many years behind physical maturity, and the American public seems to conveniently forget this fact. Abortion laws are crucial to the intrinsic rights of women and any threat to them must be considered a threat to the very fabric of our society.

Surely, even the pro-life lobby can recognize the corrosive effect that uninhibited childbirth can have on a nation, and until we reach that wonderful day when women and men alike are conscientious and responsible about their sexual behavior, the sanctity of Roe v. Wade should be maintained.

## Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I'm so glad that Peter Kalajin has the freedom to write an article like his in America.

After all, he is only applauding a terrorist and condoning acts of terrorism. Spiritual leader, what a joke. What religion needs people to willingly promote attacks on innocent people?

If the Palestinians truly were a noble people, then maybe all they would target is the IDF. Instead, like all terrorists from "that" region, they must target innocent women and children, use children to deliver bombs and pay off suicide bombers to do their dirty work. I could go on, but a civilized country does not stoop to that level.

All Peter has done was make me believe that all Palestinians are

terrorists and I should fear anybody who is not a Christian or Jewish. I guess since he is free to write such an opinionated article, I sure hope he is an American citizen with plans to serve his country after he graduates from college so he understands that his right to his opinion comes with a price.

He probably won't serve in the American Armed Services and will never truly appreciate his "right to free speech."

Oh, by the way—I was in Beirut in 1988, Panama City in 1989 and Desert Storm/Desert Shield, so I do feel that I am qualified to know what the cost of freedom is.

John Becker  
ECU Student



# CLASSIFIEDS

## FOR RENT

Room Available at Pirate's Cove; Discount Rent for month of May, June, July; All inclusive; Contact Ronnie at (919)522-9033 for more information.

Pirate's Cove, Available Now, Sublet furnished apartment. Special Price: \$325 all included. Call now 919-846-7360.

2 BR/ 2 Bath Dogwood Hollow Apt. for sublease May-July. Very clean. 10 minute walk to campus. Washer/dryer included. \$545 per month. Call (252)551-6124.

E. 4th Street house available August 3, 3 BDRM, 1 bath, washer/dryer included, no pets, 1 block from campus, call 252-327-4433.

Melbourne Park upscale one bedroom for rent. Cathedral ceiling, balcony, dishwasher, walk-in closet. New, quiet neighborhood on Wimbledon Drive. NO DEPOSIT, April rent paid. (252)717-7173.

Pinebrook Apt. 758-4015- 1 & 2 BR apts, dishwasher, G/D, central air & heat, pool, ECU bus line, 9 or 12 month leases. Pets allowed. Rent includes water, sewer, & cable.

Now Preleasing For Fall Semester- 1,2 and 3 bedrooms. All units close to ECU. Cypress Gardens, Jasmine Gardens, Peony Gardens, Gladiolus Garden, Wesley Commons North, Park Village, Cotanche Street, Beech Street Villas and Woodcliff. Water and sewer included with some units. Pets allowed in some units with fee. For more information contact Wainright Property Management 756-6209.

Sub-Lease Rent Apt., Pirate's Cove, \$360 mo., available NOW!- July 31, 2004. Contact: Karen N. Lee, 919-894-8348 or 919-207-0804

Dockside Duplex 3 BDRM, 2 Bath. 1-unit available immediately, 1 building w/ 2 units side by side- available August 3, 2004. Got 6 friends who want to room? This is ideal! Call Jeff @ 252-327-4433. Washer/Dryer included, no pets.

Efficiency Available. Live-in wanted for veterinary clinic in Chocowinity. Excellent opportunity for a pre-vet student. For details call 946-9000.

Summer school students 2 BED 1 BATH, walk to ECU, rent \$470/mo includes water and sewer. Available May 16th through July 31st, can renew for Fall Lease. Call Elisa 1-

252-412-2463

Early Birds get best homes, blocks to ECU, 1,2,3,4 bedrooms, all appliances, central heat/ac, see collegeuniversityrentals.com or call 321-4712.

Apt. for rent for summer. 2 bedroom, 3 person apt. at Ringgold Towers. Furnished, on campus. Available May-July 31st and next year if desired. Call 919-606-4615 or email alf0131@mail.ecu.edu

1, 2, 3, 4, 5 bedroom houses and duplexes. Available Fall 2004. ALL walking distance from ECU. Call 531-5701

For rent: Upscale 3 BR--3 Bath Near campus, only if you like the BEST! Call 252-561-7368 or 561-7679 or dayle@bellsouth.net

E 3rd Street house available immediately, 2 BDRM 1 Bath, washer/dryer included, fully remodeled, new windows, remodeled kitchen, new appliances. Call 252-327-4433, no pets.

Quit paying rent! 2 bedroom duplex for sale in Dockside. 2 bedroom and 2 bathroom, washer/dryer connections, live in one side and rent out the other, \$1280/mon. rental income, asking \$140,000 call 919-656-5053.

pinebrook apt. 758-4015- 1&2 BR apts, dishwasher, G/D, central air & heat, pool, ECU bus line, 9 or 12 month leases. Pets allowed. Rent includes water, sewer, & cable.

Above BW-3. 2 and 3 bedroom apartments for rent. Water and trash included. Available June, July, or August. Call 252-725-5458 or 329-8738.

Now Preleasing for Fall Semester- 1,2 and 3 bedroom duplexes & townhouses. College Towne Row, Verdant Street, Cannon Court, Cedar Court, Lewis Street and 2nd Street. All units close to ECU. Pets allowed in some units with fee. For more information contact Wainright Property Management 756-6209.

Twin Oaks townhouse, 2 BR, 1 1/2 bath, end unit on ECU campus bus route. Patio, pool, W/D hook-up. \$575 per month. Call 864-346-5750 or 864-228-3667.

3 bedroom units walking distance to ECU, high-speed internet/cable, large rooms, washer/dryer hookup, some pets OK, large yard. Call Mike 439-0285.

4 bedroom apt. Pirate's Cove lease starting in August, \$360/month all inclusive! Security deposit already paid for! Free tanning, fully furnished, was originally \$375/month savings! Please call 327-3416

Pre-Register for spacious 2 and 3 bedroom townhouses. Full basement, enclosed patio W/D hook-up, no pets. 752-7738 daytime 7:30 to 4:30.

Houses and apartments for rent near campus. 3 and 4 bedroom houses available. 1 bedroom apartments available. Call (252)353-5107.

6-7 people possible. Large house walking distance. Total 9 rooms; 2 kitchens 3 bathrooms. Central heat/air, cable/highspeed internet, washer/dryer hookup. Call Mike 439-0285.

3 BR House 1211 Cotanche St. Pets OK with Deposit. \$750 month. Call 355-3248 or 355-7939.

408 Biltmore across street from campus, renovations in process, 4 BDRM 2 Baths, available July 1, washer/dryer included, no pets, call 252-327-4433.

**Blocks to ECU, 1,2,3 Bedrooms, All appliances, Central Heat/AC, see collegeuniversityrentals.com or call 321-4712.**

## ROOMMATE WANTED

Roommate wanted to share 3-bedroom apartment. Walking distance to campus! \$241.00 plus 1/3 bills. W & D included in rent. Flexible move-in date. Call Maria at 353-5008.

Roommate needed for summer and fall. 2 blocks from campus. \$242 per month plus half utilities. 2 BD 1 BA serious inquiries only. Call 758-4774, leave message.

Male non-smoker roommate wanted for a 2 bdrm apartment \$200 deposit, \$205/mon. + 1/2 utilities and cable. Call leave message 258-7857.

2 female roommates needed to share 4 bedroom house. Walk to ECU. Available August 2004. 2 bathrooms/free parking. Upstairs \$450/mo. Downstairs \$425/mo. all inclusive. Call (336)918-8871

## FOR SALE

3 Surfboards for sale. 6'0 JC Stingray Model, good condition 6'0 Surf Prescription Y2RSQ Model, excellent condition. 5'9 H.I.C Hybrid Model, excellent condition. Call 252-258-6151 for prices.

Washer/Dryer for sale. Like new. Only \$400 for set. Call 321-1206

## SERVICES

Attention: Local Hip Hop Group wants to play your party...for free! Contact us at artisticarchists@yahoo.com or at 252-561-7303 for

further information or FREE CD's.

## HELP WANTED

Wait staff needed at Professor O'Cool's. Must be available for two lunch shifts by 11:45 M-F. Apply in person after 2 p.m. Will work nights and weekends.

Work Hard! Play Hard! Change Lives! Girls resident camp looking for counselors, lifeguards, wranglers, boating staff, crafts, nature, unit leaders, business manager, and health supervisor. \$200-\$350/week! May 22-August 1. Free Housing! 1-800-672-2148 x 410 or keyauwee@aol.com. www.tarheeltriad.org for an online application.

International Public Utility Expanding. We need reps who can work PT/FT. From home or dorm. Call 1-866-873-8722.

Lifeguards and swim instructors needed. Call 355-5009. Summer only, interviews April 5th-9th.

Join the BBC: The Buffalo Brew Crew. Buffalo Wild Wings (bw-3) is now hiring waitstaff positions for Summer. Apply in person @ 114 East 5th Street, 1:00p.m. 'til 6:00p.m. daily. Flexible schedules available.

The Greenville Recreation & Parks Department is recruiting part-time youth baseball coaches for the spring t-ball program. Applicants must possess a good knowledge of baseball skills and have the ability and patience to work with youth. Hours are from 3:30 pm to 8:00 pm, Monday-Friday with some weekend coaching. Flexible hours according to class schedules. This program will run from April 19-early June. Salary start at \$6.25 per hour. Apply at the City of Greenville, Human Resources Department, 201 Martin L. King Dr. For more information, please contact the Athletic Office at 329-4550, Monday through Friday, 10 am until 7 pm.

Wanted! Reliable, honest, energetic people to monitor crops. From May through August, 2004. We train! Must have own dependable vehicle. Learn to ID insects, weeds and other field conditions. No Nights. Hourly pay + mileage. Must be 19 or have 1 year of college. Mail or fax resume with cover letter and work experience to: MCSI, POB 370, Cove City, NC 28523 Fax: 252-637-2125 mmclawhorn@mcsiag.com

Greenville Recreation & Parks Department is seeking scorekeepers for their Adult Spring/Summer Softball Leagues. Applicants must possess knowledge of adult slow pitch softball and scorekeeping duties. Games are played Monday through Thursday. Each scorekeeper can expect three games per night. Rate of pay is \$7.00 per game. Leagues will play from April 26 until the end of July. Interested applicants can contact the Athletic Staff at 329-4550 to arrange an interview and/or receive additional information.

Finally! Earn \$5 in 10 min. @ www.brandport.com! Watch ads, earn cash. Free registration!

Restaurant Assistant Manager needed at Professor O'Cool's. Apply after 2 p.m. in person. Shifts will be nights and weekends. Some bartending experience needed.

Responsible ECU student needed to spend weekday afternoon caring for a bright and friendly 6 year-old girl. Student must have a valid NC driver's license, clean driving record, and be able to provide references. Education majors, family development, or students who have experience as nannies or sitters preferred. Position available beginning early June. Call 531-9426 and ask for Carol.

Food Delivery Drivers wanted for Restaurant Runners. Part-time positions (6-12/hr. including tips.) Perfect for college students! Some lunch time (11a-2pm) M-F availability required. 2-way radios allow you to be anywhere in Greenville when not on a delivery. Reliable transportation a must and knowledge of Greenville streets advantageous. Call 756-5527 or check out our website @ www.restaurantrunners.com. Sorry no dorm students.

Are you DIFFERENT? Most students will be waiting tables, lifeguarding, or making copies this summer. Do one of those jobs and be like everyone else. Work with us & build your resume. Average student makes \$8,138. Call 1-888-478-5330.

Two (2) part-time positions available. Shifts will be 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. plus every other Saturday. Duties include answering phones as well as other clerical duties for staff. Knowledge of Microsoft Word and Excel a must. Applications being accepted at Greenville Pool & Supply Co. 3730 S. Charles Blvd., Greenville, between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

## GREEN PERSONALS

The sisters of Kappa Delta would like to thank Chi Omega and Alpha Delta Pi for the awesome banners they made for us. Thanks girls! It is greatly appreciated!

The sisters of Alpha Omicron Pi would like to thank Lambda Chi for a great social last Friday.

Congratulations Kappa Delta on your new house! Love, Alpha Omicron Pi.

Alpha Omicron Pi would like to thank Kappa Sig for a great social last weekend.

Congratulations to the newest sisters of Alpha Omicron Pi; Laura Cucco, McKenzie Balsden, Katie Wilkes, Carrie Grier, Nicole Vandermeeren, Kris Womprski, and Christina Eaker. We love you!

## OTHER

Full Time Students!!! Stop wasting your Time and Talents on PT jobs with bad hrs. & pay!!! LOOK! For 1 weekend a month the National Guard wants you to go to college, FREE TUITION! Learn a job skill & stay a student! FT students

## HELP

## WANTED

Reliable, honest, energetic people to monitor crops. From May through August 2004. We train! Must have own dependable vehicle. Learn to ID insects, weeds, and other field conditions. No nights. Hourly pay + mileage. Must be 19 or have one year of college. Mail or fax resume with cover letter and work experience to:

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POB 370  
Cove City, NC 28523  
Fax: 252-637-2125

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Come join us for the April 10 contra dance! Live, old-time and Celtic music by a string band. Potluck dinner: 6:00 p.m.; concert: 7:00 p.m.; lesson: 7:30; dance: 8:00 - 10:30. Band: Contradiction; caller: Steve Willford. No experience needed; we'll teach you as we go along! Come alone or bring a friend! \$3 (students) \$5 (FASG members) \$8 (general). Co-sponsors: ECU Folk and Country Dancers (752-7350) and Folk Arts Society of Greenville (795-4980). An alcohol- and smoke-free event. www.geocities.com/ecufolkandcountrydancers/ Location: Willis Bldg., 1st and Reade Sts., downtown.

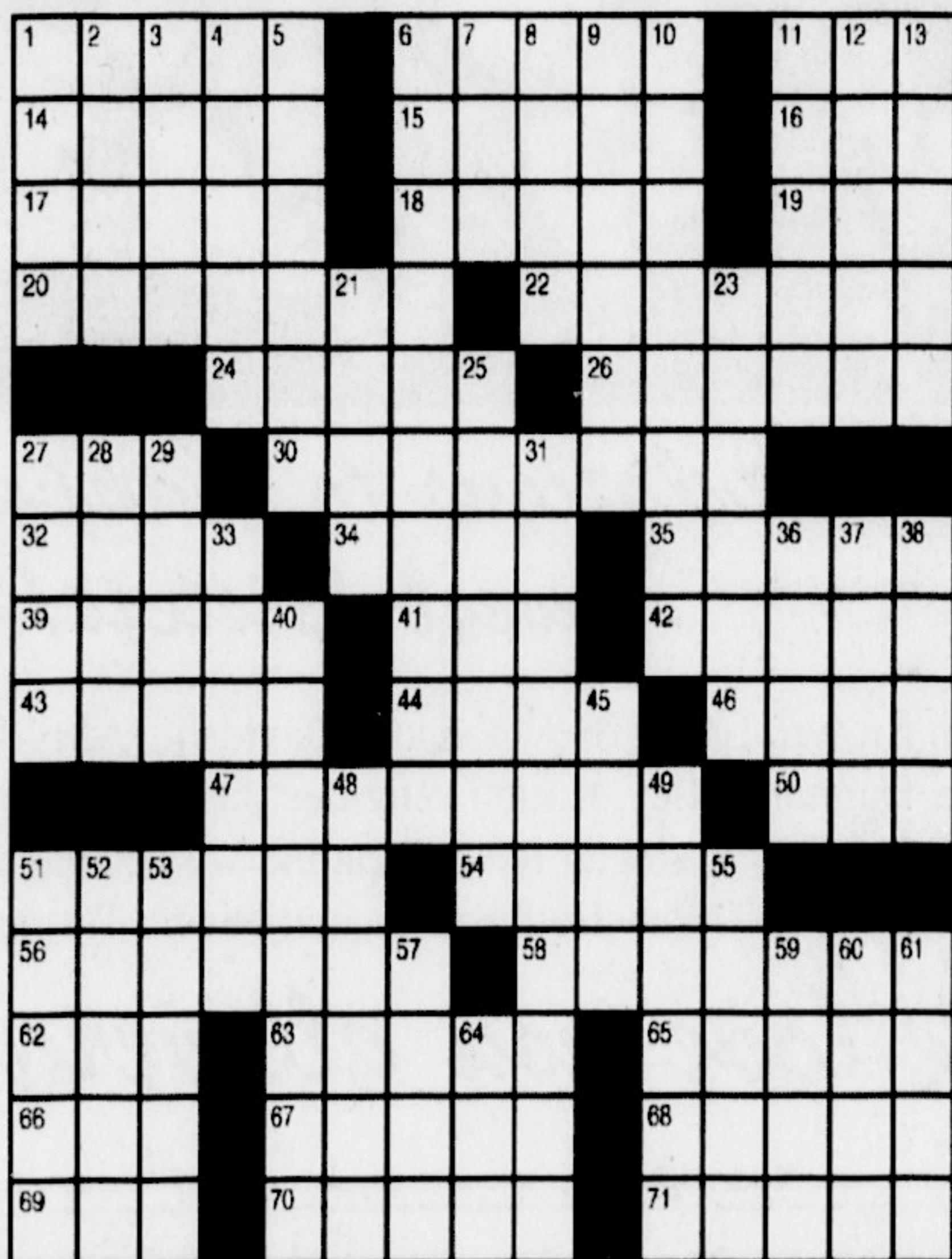
## Crossword

### ACROSS

- 1 Work stretch
- 6 Act part
- 11 E-mail symbol
- 14 Bet
- 15 John H. or Peggy
- 16 Nature grp.
- 17 Nitrogen, once
- 18 In the midst of
- 19 Dianist Anais
- 20 Cherrystones
- 22 Doing perfectly
- 24 Catch of the day
- 26 Dwarflike creatures
- 27 Jamie \_\_\_ Curtis
- 30 Award recipients
- 32 OK Corral participant
- 34 Magnitude
- 35 City on the Ruhr
- 39 Seed covers
- 41 Profit figure
- 42 Like nostalgic fashions
- 43 Fabric fold
- 44 Do beaver work
- 46 Symbol
- 47 Bridge supports
- 50 Lobster eggs
- 51 Fries lightly
- 54 Clues
- 56 Side by side
- 58 Reduce to a fine spray
- 62 Hold up
- 63 Deserve
- 65 Velocity detector
- 66 Oklahoma town
- 67 Harden
- 68 Ms. Verdugo
- 69 Coop denizen
- 70 Exudes a strong odor
- 71 Dispatches, biblical style

### DOWN

- 1 Exchange
- 2 Indistinct
- 3 Stravinsky or Sikorsky
- 4 Gala celebrations
- 5 Sapper's creation



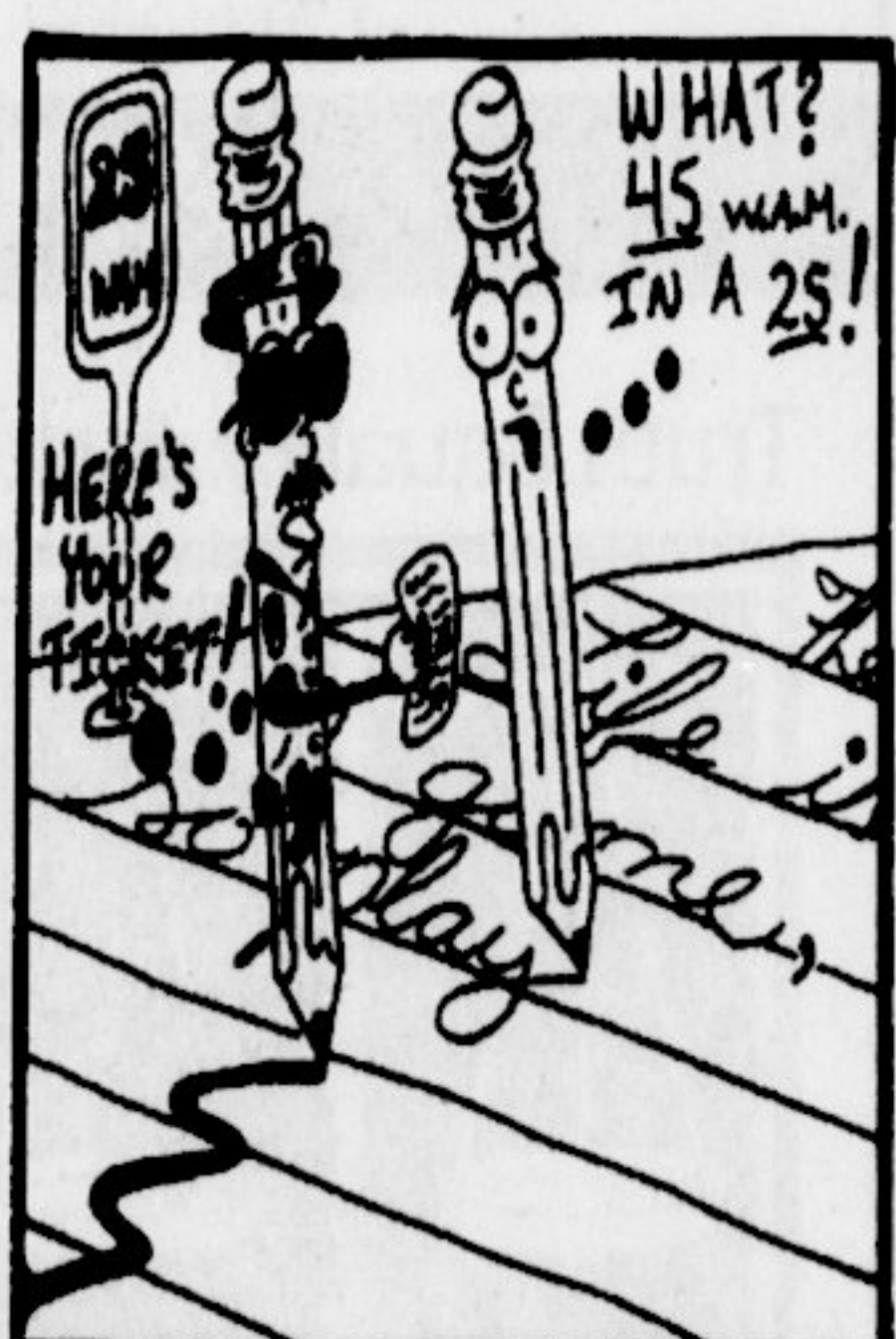
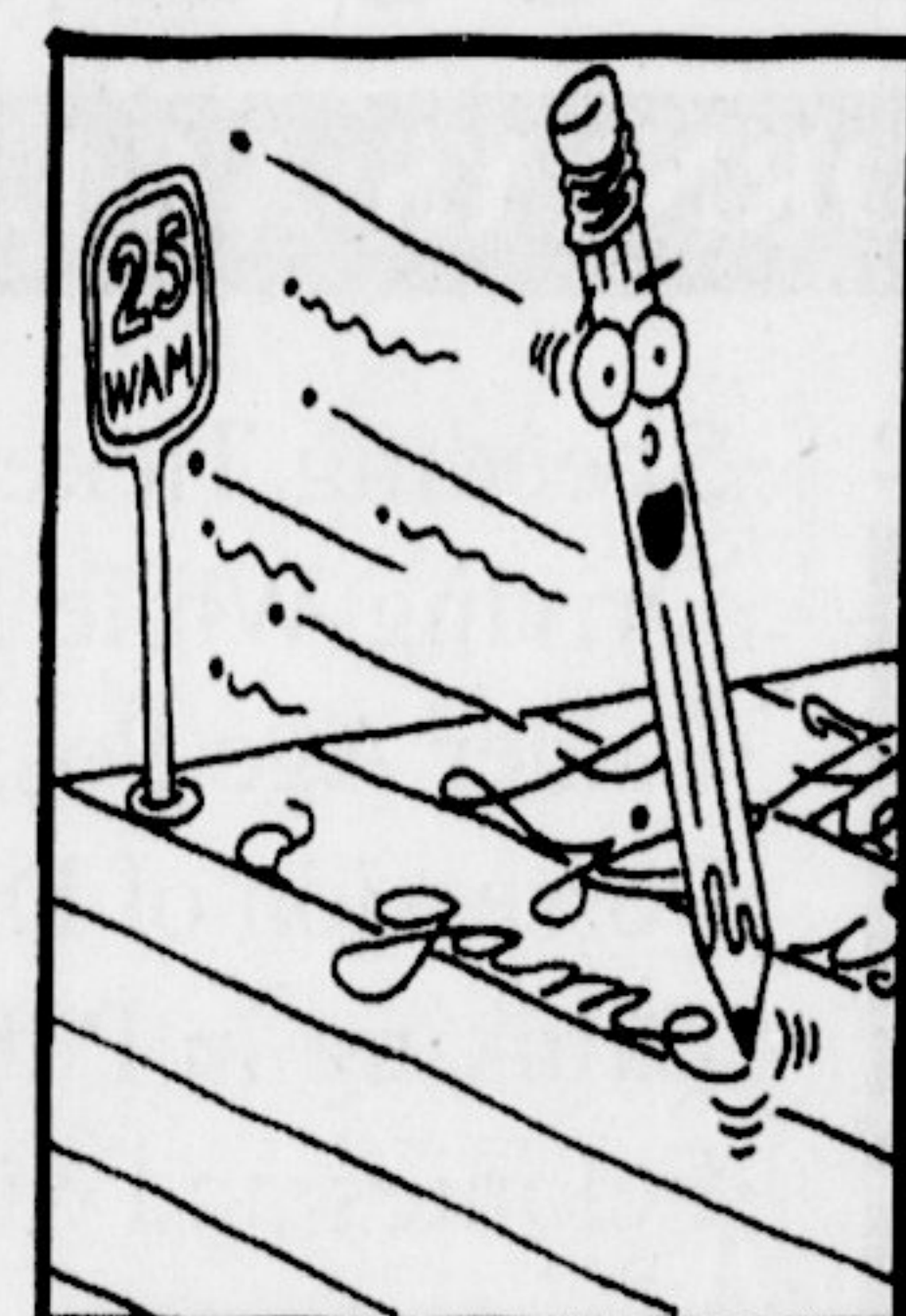
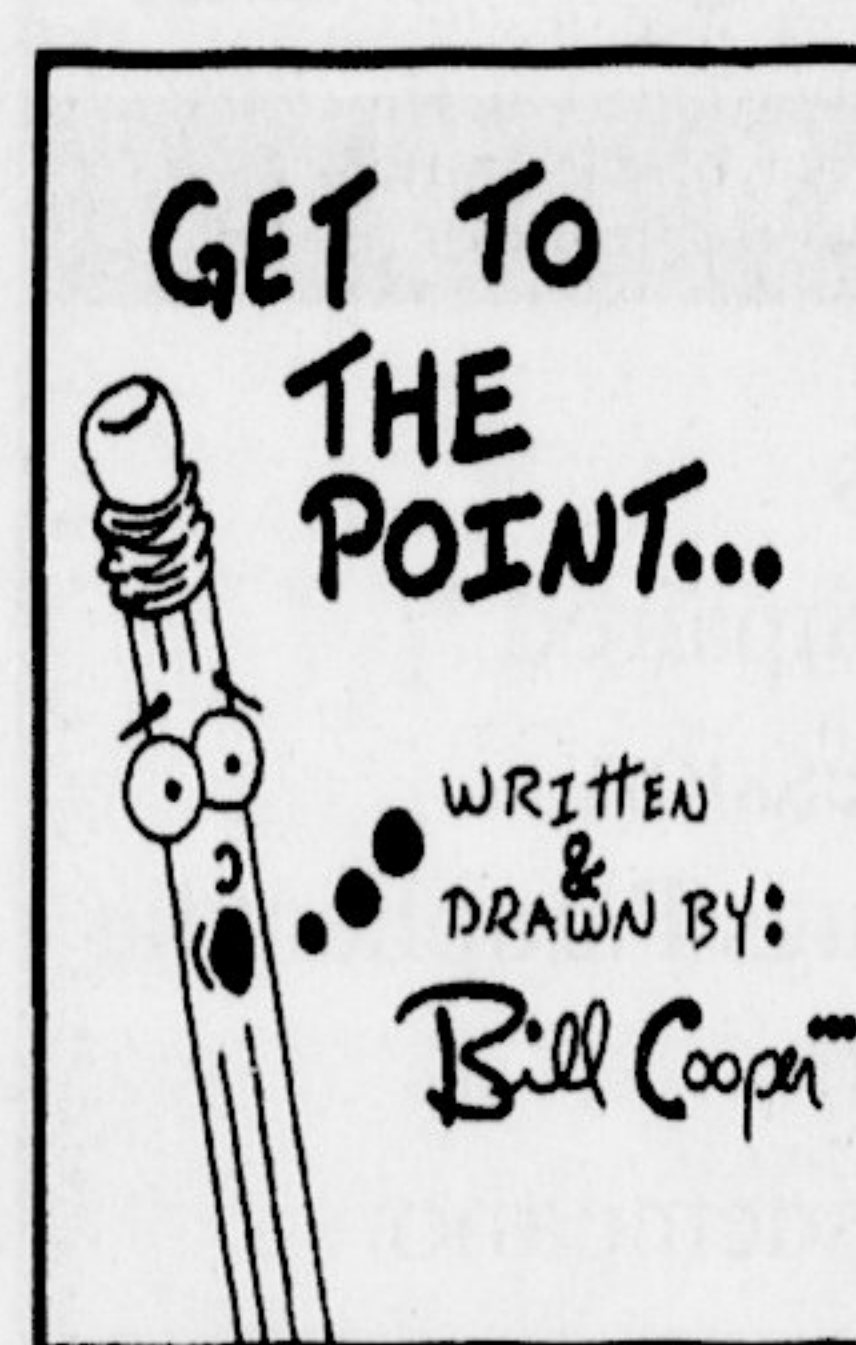
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### Solutions

1 A Y T S S K E E H N E H  
 2 N E T E E R O N E V O Y  
 3 Y O G Y R L I E W B G O U  
 4 Z I W O L V I S V E B V  
 5 S I N I H S E I O V S  
 6 O H S E T I S E H I  
 7 N G I S M Y N G L V E T d  
 8 O H T E R I E N L I R Y  
 9 N E S S E E Z I S B V E V  
 10 S E E B O N O H E E T  
 11 N I T I Y N S E N E H A d  
 12 N I N G N O W Y E L O Z Y  
 13 V d E N O I V E B E G V M  
 14 I O O E N E O S L F I H S

- 6 Salt and pepper, e.g.
- 7 Variable motion producer
- 8 Collar choice
- 9 Period of immaturity
- 10 Stage-manage
- 11 Jeans fabric
- 12 Express a viewpoint
- 13 Sharp tastes
- 21 Son of Aphrodite
- 23 Setbacks
- 25 Last of twelve
- 27 \_\_\_ of faith
- 28 Viscount's superior
- 29 Cleveland's lake
- 31 Gets even
- 33 Nebraska river
- 36 Mix
- 37 Cogito \_\_\_ sum
- 38 Zilch
- 40 Decorative strip
- 45 They \_\_\_ thataway!

- 48 Member of a monastic Jewish sect
- 49 Puts away for a rainy day
- 51 Abraham's wife
- 52 Residence
- 53 Of a city
- 55 Diminutive
- 57 Test option
- 59 Conception
- 60 Daft
- 61 Important times
- 64 Exasperate



The ECU Student Media Board invites applications for the position of

**GENERAL MANAGER,**  
**WZMB 91.3 FM**  
**GENERAL MANAGER,**  
**Expressions**

**EDITOR,**  
**The East Carolinian**  
**EDITOR,**  
**The Rebel**

for the 2004-05 academic year.

Applications are available in the Media Board office.

The deadline for submitting an application is

**THURSDAY, APRIL 8 AT 4 P.M.**

For information, call the Media Board office at 328-6009.

**BDSM** from page A1

reputation may be affected since some might view the organization as "sick" and ECU as a "bad school" for allowing it.

Marshall said she understands some people are confused about BDSM and that the initial response is negative. The group's main function was intended to be educational.

In its constitution, ECU BDSM is described as an "avenue for information to individuals interested in BDSM, so that they may learn skills in safe, sane and consensual sexuality."

The club planned to hold panels, social meals and demonstrations at locations disclosed only to members. Members would have to provide identification, sign a liability release and keep other members' identities confidential.

Although the BDSM community is not usually very vocal about activities, its population is somewhat significant.

The Kinsey Institute, a non-profit organization affiliated with Indiana University, studies human sexuality. In a 1990 report, it found 5 to 10 percent of U.S. citizens regularly participates in some

form of sadomasochism.

BDSM-type college clubs do exist elsewhere, though they have yet to become common and accepted. Iowa State University's Cuffs have received praise and criticism because its controversial activities are being funded by student government money.

University liability and student safety have also become major issues threatening the group's existence.

The Cuffs were charged with assault for holding a demonstration, where, according to the judicial report, one member struck another "with various instruments and with the intention to cause pain."

Currently, the group is appealing the decision.

From an outsider's perspective, the line between domestic violence and BDSM is thin or non-existent. Organizations, like the National Coalition for Sexual Freedom, provide and publish information. NCSF has a "Field Guide for Law Enforcement" on consensual BDSM activities, to ward off unne-

cessary legal entanglements.

Some attorneys provide legal support for people who face legal charges associated with BDSM.

Ben Irons, university attorney, advised Moore about potential outcomes if the group were approved. He said the major concern was the possibility of the group's behavior resulting into assault charges.

Moore said he considered many things when making his decision, including student safety, the recent rapes on campus and liability issues.

Marshall said she was disappointed, but she thinks the decision would have been different had administration known more about BDSM. The group will not disband, and Marshall will continue talks with the university in hopes of officializing the club in the future by making changes where necessary.

"It's similar to homosexuals 10 years ago because of how they fought hard to get rights and let people understand," Marshall said.

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

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## Honor from page A1

If this is a true organization by no means [are] their actions professional."

Irons said he could not say whether the e-mail is illegal, but he did say the organization was not affiliated with ECU.

Jack McCoy, director of Information Technology Security, said there are a number of ways scam artists could have accessed student e-mail information.

McCoy said because e-mail is public record, an individual could extract the information from ECU's directory service, request the information or get it once it is redistributed to others.

McCoy could not comment on which of these methods was used at ECU.

Irons said because the directory is public and the company probably has no assets, the university would

probably not sue the company. However, he did say he would look further into the message.

"I think it is prudent to refer this to the consumer protection division of the attorney general's office. I think that the attorney general would be very interested in this message," said Irons.

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

## Weird News

**Ohio woman found guilty of falsely claiming to have won a \$162M jackpot**

SOUTH EUCLID, Ohio (AP) - A woman who claimed that she bought and lost a \$162-million lottery ticket was found guilty Tuesday of filing a false police report. She was fined \$1,000 and ordered to perform 50 hours of community service.

Elecia Battle, 40, of Cleveland also was ordered to pay \$5,596.71 in restitution for police overtime, security and other costs related to the case. Battle reached an agreement with prosecutors that called for her to plead no contest to the misdemeanor charge, with the understanding that she would be found guilty. She could have received six months in jail.

**Town revels in The Running of the Sheep**

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP) - A small New Zealand town reached for some of the glamour and danger of the Spanish bull-run in the city of Pamplona on Saturday, by running 2,000 woolly sheep through the middle of town. No one was chased, trampled or gored by the animals in the

inaugural Running of the Sheep. And instead of seeking cover, most spectators helped stop the shaggy mob from scurrying everywhere but the right direction.

As organizer John Grainger predicted, the result was pure chaos as sheep, people and dogs struggled along the planned route through North Island's Te Kuiti, a rural farming town 570 kilometers north of the capital, Wellington.

**Ducted tape formal wear**

HAGERMAN, Idaho (AP) - When at the prom, it's best to stick to your date.

No problem for Lynlee Jayo and Josh Traugher, a high school couple who used duct tape, thrift-store jackets and bed sheets to make their own formal wear for just \$30.

Jayo and Traugher's creativity put them in the running for \$2,500 scholarships. The Duck brand duct-tape company also gave \$2,500 to the school as part of a national contest.

"It's my last prom, and I wanted to go with a bang," Traugher said.

"I think we hit on something way different."

Her dress was made from an old

bed sheet. She used three rolls of black and red tape on the hourglass-shaped gown with spaghetti straps. "I thought about a lot of different ideas, but it's hard to imagine what a duct tape dress will look like until you make it," Jayo said.

Because of an extra layer of duct tape, Traugher's jacket weighed 14 pounds. He also made duct-tape slacks, a duct-tape T-shirt and a black-and-white checkered tie using six rolls of tape.

**In Alaska, spring means betting**

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) - Tom Waters saves all year to indulge in his only hobby: guessing when ice will melt.

For \$2.50 a pop, he and thousands of others try for a piece of a \$300,000 US jackpot by predicting the exact minute when spring will loosen the frozen cover of the Tanana River at Nenana, Alaska, enough to move it downstream.

Kentucky has its Derby, Indianapolis its 500. Alaska's rite of spring is the Nenana Ice Classic.

For 87 years, residents of Nenana, a city of 500 about 90 kilometers south of Fairbanks, have gambled on when the ice will leave the Tanana.

## Fire from page A1

at the Marriott," said Musselman. "The claims adjuster is coming Friday."

One major concern the residents face is whether their lost items will be covered. Keith Wainright, of Wainright Property Management, who own Cypress Gardens, said people without renters insurance are out of luck.

"Renters have to have their own insurance - and that is anywhere," Wainright said. ECU has loaned books to students in past fires.

The American Red Cross, Pitt County Chapter is doing all it can to help victims of the fire. Charlene Lee, director, said residents' "emergent" needs such as motel rooms, clothing and medicine have already been taken care of. Residents were offered lodging at the Super 8 motel on Memorial Drive.

Residents can also receive dispensing order vouchers for meals.

Lee said she had no round figure on how much it would cost because the amount had not been totaled yet.

She said 911 notified them of the fire and the Red Cross sent eight volunteers to Cypress Gardens to assist the victims.

"We are collaborating with ECU [to] secure housing for these residents," said Lee.

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

Friday, April 16, 2004 7:00 PM  
Great Rooms  
Mendenhall Student Center  
East Carolina University

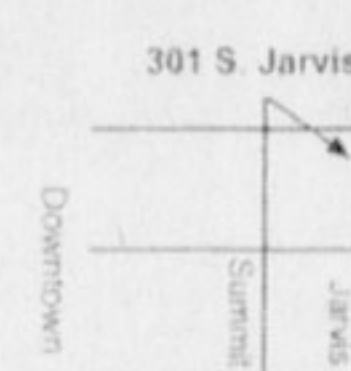


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# SHOW US YOURS!

We want to see your photos of this year at ECU. The East Carolinian is putting together a retrospective of this year at ECU to be published in our commencement edition.

This look back wouldn't be complete without your favorite photo taken during an event or activity this school year. You can submit a conventional photo print or a digital file. Please include a note with the photo and tell us your name, the name(s) of anyone clearly pictured in the shot and where/when it was taken.

Send your favorite ECU memory of the year to [photos@theeastcarolinian.com](mailto:photos@theeastcarolinian.com) by April 16 and we may include it in our commencement special edition.

NOTE: by submitting a photo you give us your permission to reproduce it in our special edition.



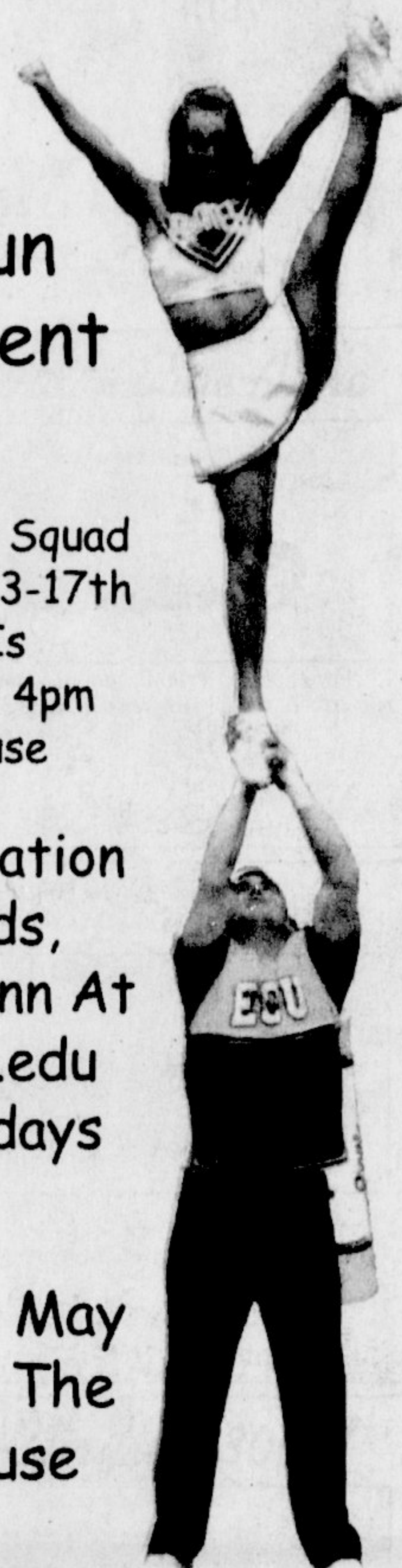
## ECU COED CHEER & STUNT SQUAD & ECU All-Girl Squad

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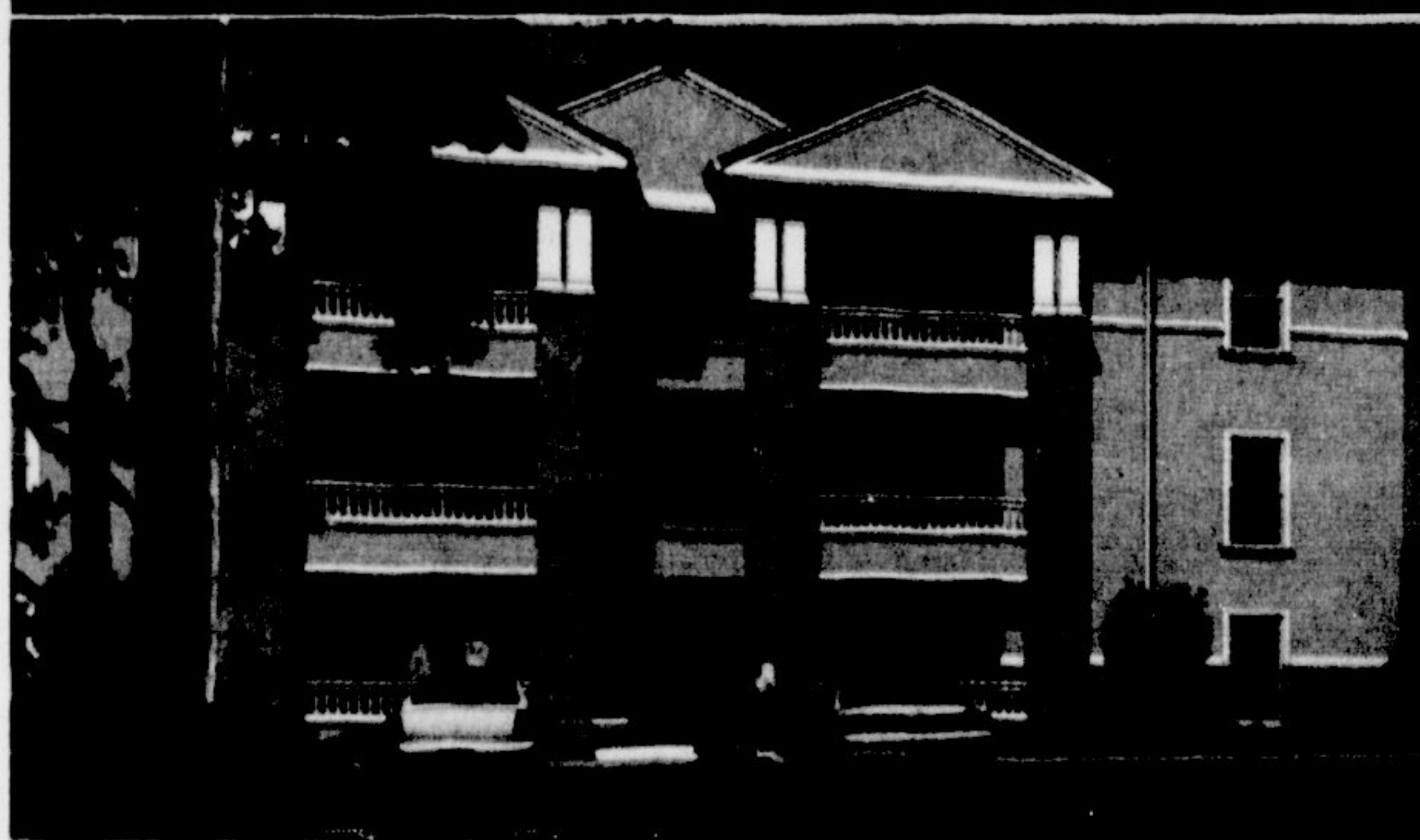
Tryouts For The Coed Squad Are Being Held April 13-17th  
Tryout Meeting Is Tuesday, April 13 At 4pm  
In Scales Fieldhouse

For More Information For Both Squads, Contact Susie Glynn At [glynns@mail.ecu.edu](mailto:glynns@mail.ecu.edu) Or Attend Tuesdays Meeting.

Try Out Packets May Be Picked Up In The Scales Fieldhouse Lobby



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## Announcements

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# FEATURES

**AMANDA LINGERFELT**  
Features Editor

**JOHN BREAM**  
Assistant Features Editor  
features@theeastcarolinian.com  
252.328.6366

## Did You Know?

- Performer Biz Markie (1968) and actress Patricia Arquette (1968) both call today their birthday.
- This month is Fresh Florida Tomato Month.
- Today is Vote Lawyers Out of Office Day.
- On this day in 1974, Hank Aaron set the home run record.

## Announcements

### Films

The Student Union Films Committee will not be showing any films this week.

### Symphony Orchestra

The School of Music presents the ECU Symphony Orchestra conducted by Hisao Watanabe at 8 p.m. today in Wright Auditorium. This event is free.

### Game Night Tournament

The Student Union is sponsoring a game night tournament from 11 p.m. - 3 a.m. on Thursday, April 8 in the Mendenhall Student Center. This event is free.

### Blu Moon Festival

The Blu Moon Independent Film Festival will be held on April 16. Submit entries to Ashley Magnum at 712 White Hall, Greenville, NC 27858 or call 229-5298. Entries are due on April 9. For more information, e-mail blumoonfilmfest@yahoo.com or visit personal.ecu.edu/jcd1025.

### Potluck Dinner and Dance

The ECU Folk and Country Dancers are sponsoring a potluck dinner, concert and dance on Saturday, April 10 at the Willis Building on First and Reade Streets. Dinner is at 6 p.m., the concert begins at 7 p.m. and a contra dance begins at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$3 for students.

### Relay For Life

The Pitt County Relay for Life recently kicked off this year's effort by celebrating the Relay's 10-year anniversary. The 2004 Relay for Life will be held on Friday, April 30 and Saturday, May 1 at the Pitt County Fairgrounds. Relay is now seeking volunteers who are interested in helping form teams and join in the fight against cancer. If you are interested in volunteering, forming a team, or donating time or money, please contact Alis Irwin at 317-5803.

## Greenville Live

**A.J. McMurphy's**  
1914 Timbury Drive  
355-7956  
Saturday, April 10, 9 p.m.  
Victor Hudson

**Chef's 505**  
505 Red Banks Road  
355-7505

Wednesday, April 14, 7:30 p.m.  
ECU jazz faculty and students

**Christy's Euro Pub**  
301 S. Jarvis St.  
758-2774  
Tuesday, April 13, 10 p.m.  
Open mic night

**City Hotel and Bistro**  
203 S.W. Greenville Blvd.  
355-8300

Wednesday, April 14, 7 p.m.  
Steve Hardy's Beach Party

**Corrigan's**  
122 E. Fifth St. 758-3114  
Friday, April 9, 10 p.m.  
Live music  
Saturday, April 10, 10 p.m.  
Live music

**Courtyard Tavern**  
703 S.E. Greenville Blvd.  
321-0202  
Sunday, April 11, 7 p.m.  
Live Music

**El Ranchito**  
315 E. Tenth St.  
561-7336  
Thursday, April 8, 7 p.m.  
Mariachi Band

**Ham's**  
701 Evans St.  
830-2739  
Thursday, April 8, 10 p.m.  
Karaoke  
Saturday, April 10, 10 p.m.  
Christopher Dean  
Sunday, March 11, 10 p.m.  
Open mic night

**Mesh Cafe**  
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321-MESH

Thursday, April 8, 9 p.m.  
The Coastline Band  
Friday, April 9, 9 p.m.  
Comedy  
Saturday, April 10, 9 p.m.  
Deejay

**Peasants**  
110 E. Fourth St.  
752-5855

Thursday, April 8, 9 p.m.  
Perpetual Groove  
Friday, April 9, 9 p.m.  
Beaux Arts-Ball  
Saturday, April 10, 9 p.m.  
Hobex  
Tuesday, April 13, 9 p.m.  
Boogiehawg

**Player's Choice**  
Community Square, Memorial Drive

355-4149  
Thursday, April 8, 10 p.m.  
Karaoke  
Saturday, April 10, 10 p.m.  
Snakes and Angels

**Players Retreat**  
1631 Pactolus Road  
758-6856

Thursday, April 8, 7 p.m.  
Karaoke  
Saturday, April 10, 9 p.m.  
Take 3

**Professor O'Cool's**  
605 Greenville Blvd.  
355-2946

Saturday, April 10, 9:30 p.m.  
Karaoke

**Wimple's Steam Bar**  
206 Main St., Winterville  
355-4220

Friday, April 10, 7:30 p.m.  
Rob Legere  
Saturday, April 10, 7:30 p.m.  
Ray & Bobby

# Should you lease or buy?

Weighing factors on getting more bang for your buck

**LISA TUMBARELLO**  
STAFF WRITER

College is the turning point for many students who become financially detached from their parents and show their independence. To prove and celebrate responsibility, some students exhibit their newfound self-reliance by purchasing their first car.

Purchasing your first car is a significant moment in anyone's life. The feeling of freedom and excitement from being handed that first set of keys can't be duplicated. It's much like the feeling of getting your driver's license, but being able to buy your own car shows that you are ready for financial responsibility.

"I recently bought a new car, and it was the best feeling in the world," said Paul Reitmeyer, sophomore computer science major, about his recent purchase of a 2003 Toyota Corolla.

"I can't describe the feeling I had when they gave me the keys."

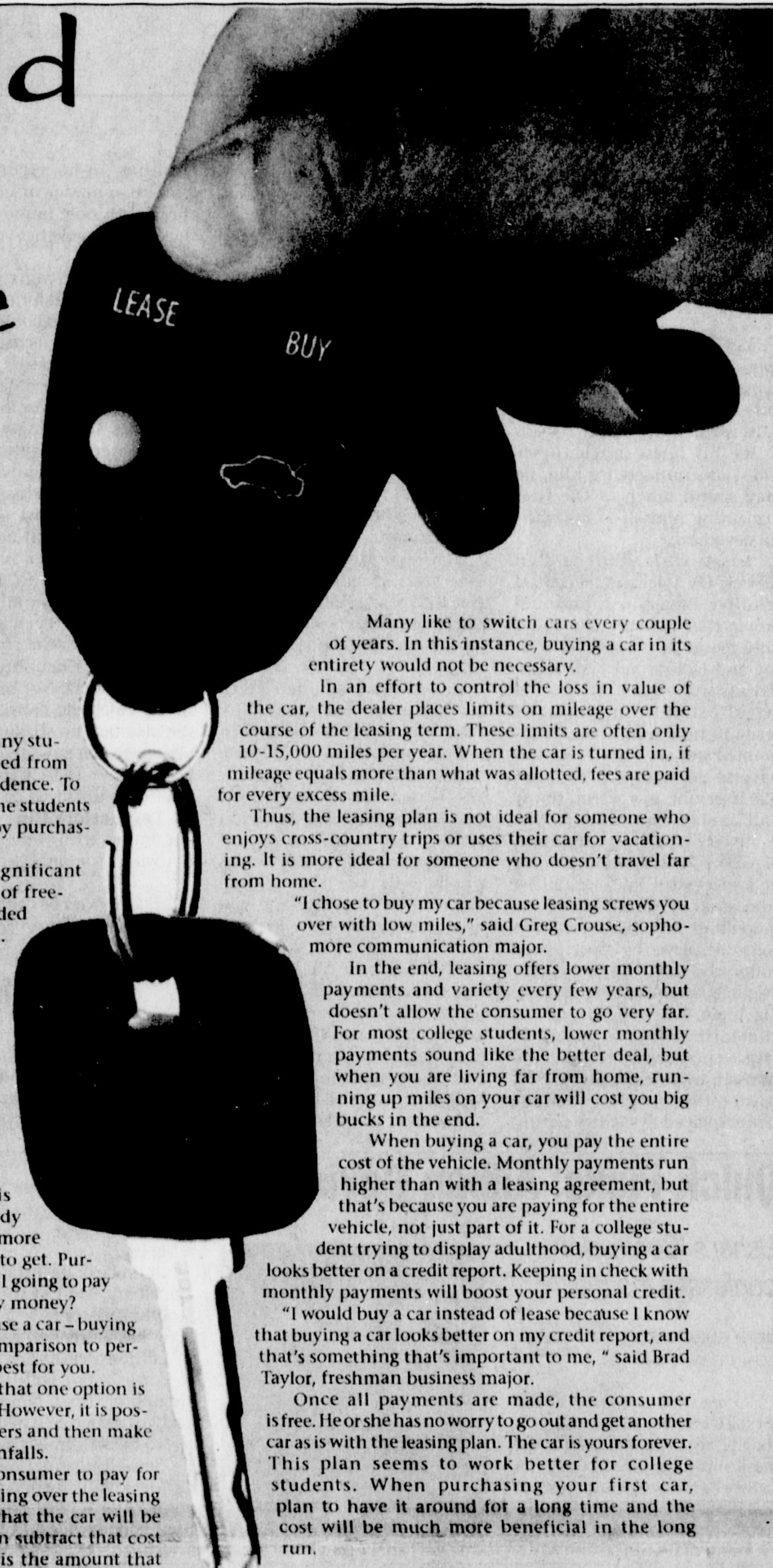
For those that have reached this point of financial stability and are ready to take the plunge, buying a car has more decisions than what make and model to get. Purchasing becomes a question of how am I going to pay for this and how can I get more for my money?

There are two main ways to purchase a car - buying and leasing. Weigh each option in comparison to personal needs to decide what option is best for you.

Off the bat, it's not possible to say that one option is better or worse for each type of buyer. However, it is possible to decipher what each option offers and then make a decision based on benefits and downfalls.

Leasing from a dealer costs the consumer to pay for the car's value amount that they are using over the leasing period. Lease agreements calculate what the car will be worth at the end of the term and then subtract that cost from the initial cost of the car. This is the amount that the owner pays over the course of the leasing term, which usually only lasts two to three years.

For this reason, leasing a car is more beneficial for those who enjoy change.



Many like to switch cars every couple of years. In this instance, buying a car in its entirety would not be necessary.

In an effort to control the loss in value of the car, the dealer places limits on mileage over the course of the leasing term. These limits are often only 10-15,000 miles per year. When the car is turned in, if mileage equals more than what was allotted, fees are paid for every excess mile.

Thus, the leasing plan is not ideal for someone who enjoys cross-country trips or uses their car for vacationing. It is more ideal for someone who doesn't travel far from home.

"I chose to buy my car because leasing screws you over with low miles," said Greg Crouse, sophomore communication major.

In the end, leasing offers lower monthly payments and variety every few years, but doesn't allow the consumer to go very far. For most college students, lower monthly payments sound like the better deal, but when you are living far from home, running up miles on your car will cost you big bucks in the end.

When buying a car, you pay the entire cost of the vehicle. Monthly payments run higher than with a leasing agreement, but that's because you are paying for the entire vehicle, not just part of it. For a college student trying to display adulthood, buying a car looks better on a credit report. Keeping in check with monthly payments will boost your personal credit.

"I would buy a car instead of lease because I know that buying a car looks better on my credit report, and that's something that's important to me," said Brad Taylor, freshman business major.

Once all payments are made, the consumer is free. He or she has no worry to go out and get another car as is with the leasing plan. The car is yours forever. This plan seems to work better for college students. When purchasing your first car, plan to have it around for a long time and the cost will be much more beneficial in the long run.

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

## Student relies on alternative fuel sources

Converted diesel engine runs on vegetable oil

**LAUREN MASON**  
SENIOR WRITER

Anthony Distefano has big plans for his career at ECU. The Greenville native has returned home to begin his college education as a history major with a minor in coastal marine studies. However, his real interest has been improving the environment and he's taken the first step with his own car.

The silver automobile may seem like a typical vehicle at first - a two-door sedan with a diesel engine and shiny Mercedes hood ornament. The real difference, though, occurs after Distefano cranks the engine. The motor starts up noisily for the first couple of seconds, and then it quiets down to a gentle hum. The exhaust, rather than giving off the acrid fumes of gas and petroleum, smells more like popcorn and French fries. The engine runs on vegetable oil, and it's just the beginning of Distefano's plans to make his impact on campus.

"The entire process, if you have all of the parts together and everything, takes about ten hours. I converted the engine about a month and a half ago and did all of it myself," Distefano said.

With his first-hand experience from working on ships with large diesel engines, Distefano has become well-informed on engines and has widened his interests to alternative fuel sources. The particular oil sources he has studied include straight vegetable oil, or SVO, and bio-diesel, a converted vegetable product that can be blended with petroleum diesel in varying grades. Bio-diesel doesn't require modifications, but SVO involves heating and filtering to create oil that is the same viscosity, or thickness, as petroleum diesel. This idea has become more popular as environmentalists grow concerned about pollution and global warming.

"The first diesel engines actually ran on vegetable oil, but the



ECU student Anthony Distefano's Mercedes runs on vegetable oil instead of gasoline.

petroleum companies later came out and convinced consumers to switch to the petroleum oil," Distefano said.

"It's a very patriotic thing to do now, especially since our country has such a dependency on oil. With the recent wars and high gas prices influencing our fuel usage, it's a great way to support your country and help the environment."

Distefano has an impressive background in environmental conservation, including working as a wilderness guide in Alaska during the summers. He feels at home on the water and that has led him to pursue maritime law and act as an advocate for the protection of endangered fish species. He also plans to approach the Student Senate and present his proposal to switch ECU Transit buses over to bio-diesel fuel. The change would cost the university several thousand dollars, but when applied to student fees, individuals would only see an increase of a dollar or two.

"The EPA released a health effects study last year about diesel emissions, and it was found that diesel fumes are cancerous. The key groups targeted were school-aged children who were exposed

to the emissions from riding on school buses," Distefano said.

"In 2005, Pitt County will be mandated to reduce fleet emissions along with Raleigh, Durham and other populated areas that are concerned about air pollution."

Distefano thinks that the most cost-effective method of reducing pollutants by vehicles would be switching to bio-diesel fuel for major transit systems. NC State University has already switched over, thanks to a grant that helped fund the change.

"I believe that we can do the same, with student support and the response I've already had from people who are concerned about our environment," Distefano said.

Pitt County Memorial Hospital transit has also made the transition to bio-diesel fuel and has built a fueling station by the airport to accommodate the new fuel source. Charles Mayo, the leader in the PCMH transit change, has unofficially given permission for ECU buses to fuel up at that facility if the change is made.

"He wants to promote the use of alternative fuels and do his part to have a healthier

## FYI

Any students interested in learning more about converting diesel engines or the proposal for bio-diesel fuel on campus can contact Anthony Distefano at aad0717@mail.ecu.edu.

environment in our county," Distefano said.

Distefano is preparing his proposal for the new plan, but is always looking for students who are interested in converting diesel vehicles.

"I'd like to start a club, Students for a Sustainable Campus. I think we can make things more efficient for our campus and better for our health," Distefano said.

"We could use waste oil from the cafeteria and convert it to bio-diesel oil to be fuel for the buses. If we address these issues as a group of concerned students, I really think we can make changes happen."

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

## Quick Picks: Film Review

Smith still gets lots of laughs in 'Jersey Girl'

ADAM PARR  
STAFF WRITER

Kevin Smith's college tour appears to be working according to plan, but against a budget. Not only is it \$7 to hear him live, but I also shelled out another \$5.25 to see his latest movie, *Jersey Girl*. Unfortunately for him, he may spend much of the tour explaining himself to his faithful devotees.

*Jersey Girl*, starring Ben Affleck, Liv Tyler and (of course) Jennifer Lopez, is a personal movie that Smith made about fatherhood. It is sweet, charming and Hollywood – all adjectives that die-hard fans do not expect out of Kevin Smith. Get ready to hear from some disappointed stoners – however, they have to get over it. *Jersey Girl*, like it or not, is a warm, funny and overall enjoyable movie.

It tells the story of Oliver, played by Affleck, who is a young and successful music publicist who revels in the fast-paced cosmopolitan lifestyle. He marries Gertrude, played by Lopez, a book editor who shares his taste for the bright lights and late nights of the Big Apple. When she dies during childbirth, Oliver is pushed to take responsibility of the child himself, who he initially tries to pawn off on his street-sweeping father (played by George Carlin)



living in suburban New Jersey. The pressure quickly becomes too much and he calls Will Smith a two-bit TV actor causing him to lose his job. With no job and a new daughter, he is forced to move in with his father.

Having worked for the city for seven years, spending most of his time with his daughter (played by Raquel Castro) and no time with any woman his own age, things change.

Enter Mya, a video clerk (recognize that one?) played by Tyler, who wants to use him in a study about pornographic rental habits. It is bullied, but funny nonetheless. All goes well until the temptation of his old life and an opportunity to reclaim himself as a somebody starts knocking. Put them all together and you have one big sappy love fest.

Nevertheless, it's a good kind of sap, like the kind that Mrs. Butterworth's makes. Some scenes make you want to get up and walk out, but it backs off at just the right moment. Parts of it are actually very strong and very real when you consider the realm of romantic comedy. And, yes, it

is funny. To his credit, Smith remains a master of clever but cheap bathroom humor, and he sticks with it whether you find it funny or not.

The cast screams disaster, but performs well for maybe the only director who could bring it out. Affleck, who seems to think of himself as some sort of other-worldly being these days (have you seen the cover of *Rolling Stone*?), is surprisingly human. In an intense hospital scene, we see shades of old over-acting Affleck, but moments later, he is quiet and almost powerful. Lopez is functional as Oliver's wife and Liv Tyler is good as the quirky girl who rekindles his interest in women – her voice has never been so husky.

However, Castro (who plays Oliver's daughter) really steals the show. Not only is she sweet, cute, and confident, but she also bears a striking resemblance to her on-screen mom, Lopez. Now there's something you can build a career on.

**The bottom line:** Check it out, but go with your girlfriend, not with your buddies.

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



### Film Info

Film: *Jersey Girl*  
Starring: Ben Affleck and Liv Tyler  
Directed by: Kevin Smith  
Release Date: April 2, 2004.

## Quick Picks: Album Review

Usher's 'Confessions' confesses too much

BETH GUNDERSON  
SENIOR WRITER

*Confessions* is the fifth album for R&B crooner Usher. Usher, at the ripe age of 23, has been in the music business since he was 14. A La Face Records executive discovered him at a talent contest in his hometown of Atlanta, Ga.

Many radio tuners and MTV viewers received a preview of Usher's newest album. His single, "Yeah!" featuring rappers



Ludacris and Lil' Jon, hit radios and televisions across the United States far before the March 23 release date. The single, with a hip-hop/club feel, has become

a big hit.

It is one of the better songs on the album. Most of the album is strictly R&B, unlike "Yeah!" The song has a driving beat courtesy of Lil' Jon that makes you want to dance. Along with the soulful singing of Usher, famous rapper Ludacris adds an even more hip-hop feel to the song by adding a bridge.

Sexuality permeates the entire CD, leaving it inappropriate for younger audiences, even though there is no obvious profanity.

The title track "Confessions," one of the better songs, discusses

see USHER page B3

## East Carolina UNIVERSITY



### Academic Computing Environment

What is it?

ACE is a campus-wide effort addressing the support of student technology in the academic environment. Beginning in the fall of 2004, specific academic programs will begin requiring or strongly recommending their students to own a computer. The degree programs vary on when the computer will be required within the life of the program.

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College of Arts and Sciences  
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College of Technology and Computer Science  
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School of Art  
> Communication Arts

School of Medicine

College of Human Ecology  
> Criminal Justice

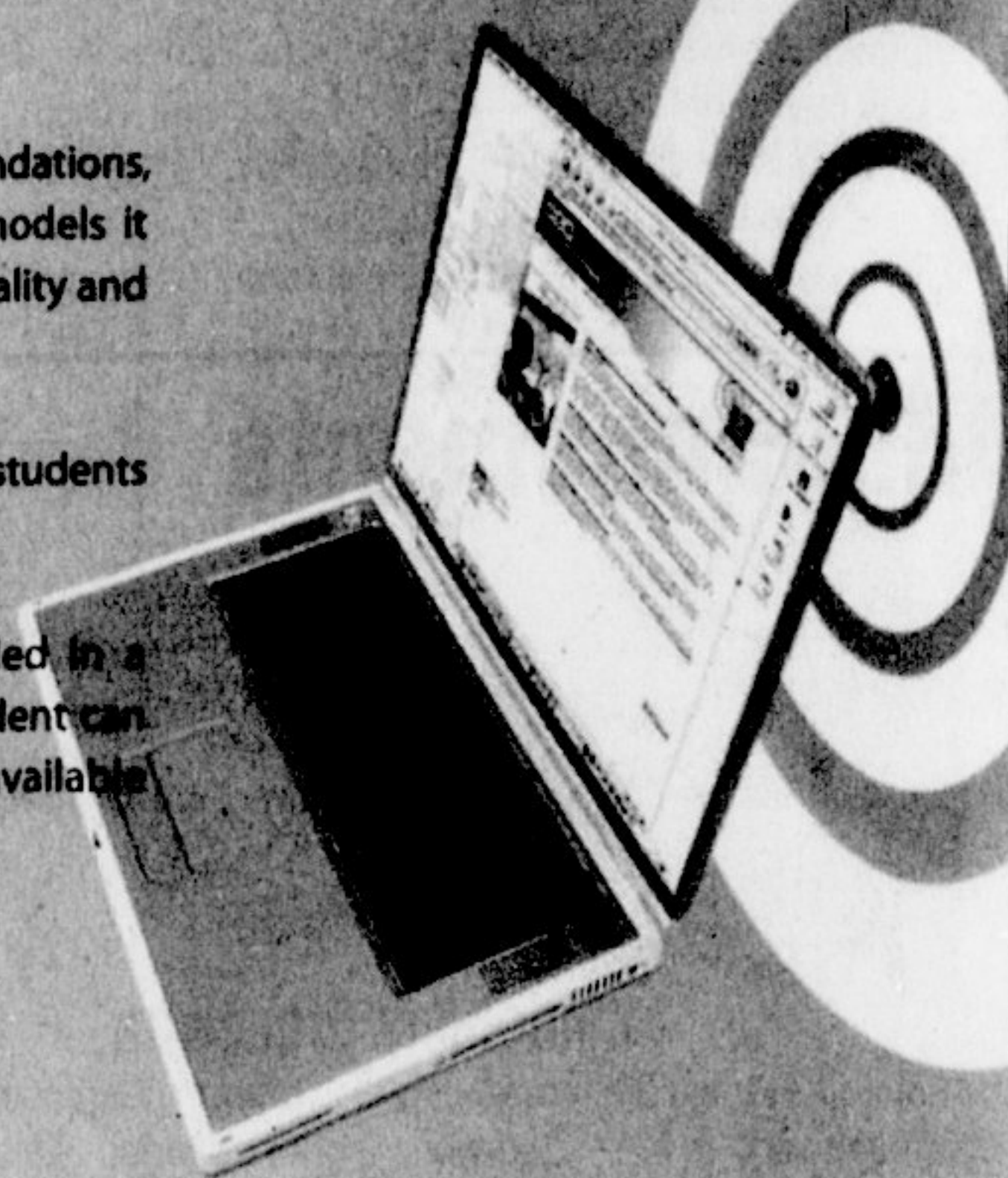
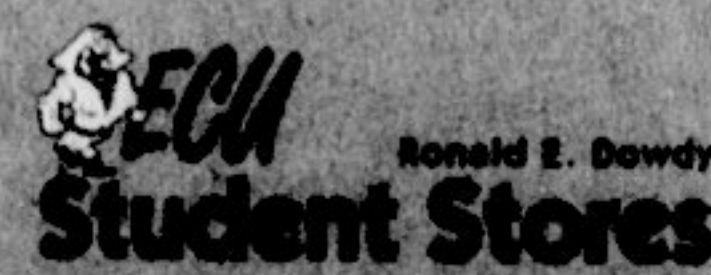
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College of Education  
> Graduate Program  
> Music Education  
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> Theatre Education

College of Arts and Sciences  
> Anthropology  
> Physics

[www.ecu.edu/ace](http://www.ecu.edu/ace)

Detailed information about specific programs and requirements can be found at [www.ecu.edu/ace](http://www.ecu.edu/ace).



Fall 2004

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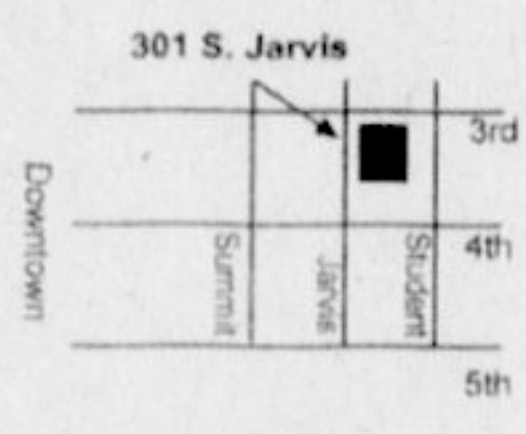


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## Cinema Scene

### Student Union

The Student Union will not be presenting any films this week due to Easter break.

### Carmike 12

**Dawn of the Dead** - starring Sarah Polley and Ving Rhames. Remake of George Romero's classic in which a swarm of slow-moving cannibalistic corpses who snack on the inhabitants of a shopping mall. Rated: R.

**Hellboy** - starring Ron Perlman and Selma Blair. Born in the flames of hell and brought to Earth to perpetrate evil, Hellboy (Perlman) was rescued from sinister forces by Dr. Broom, who raised him to be a hero. Rated: PG-13.

**Home on the Range** - starring Judi Dench, Cuba Gooding Jr. and Randy Quaid. A group of cows learn that their owner must pay a \$1,000 mortgage on the farm or she will be forced to sell. The animals band together with the lady's horse to come up with the money. Their plan is to collect the bounty on a no-good bandit who's on the run. Rated: PG.

**Jersey Girl** - starring Ben Affleck and Liv Tyler. A savvy music promoter (Affleck) has his world turned upside down when he indulges in a whirlwind romance with a Publishing House book editor (Tyler). Rated: PG-13.

**Johnson Family Vacation** - starring Cedric the Entertainer, Vanessa Williams and Bow Wow. The head of the Johnson family hits the highway with his brother, separated wife and three children on a trip to Missouri to make the Johnson family reunion. Along the way, they share a few colorful and comical adventures. Rated: PG-13.

**The Ladykillers** - starring Tom Hanks and Marlon Wayans. An eccentric Southern professor (Hanks) puts together a gang of double-crossing thieves to rob a riverboat casino. They rent a room in an old woman's house, but when she discovers the scheme, somebody has to kill her. Rated: R.

**Never Die Alone** - starring DMX and David Arquette. A journalist (Arquette) witnesses the murder of a gangster (DMX). The gangster's rise and fall is charted in flashback through the gangster's journal, which enables the journalist to understand why he was killed and tell the story. Rated: R.

**The Passion of the Christ** - starring James Caviezel, Monica Bellucci and Maia Morgenstern. Controversial story of the last 12 hours in the life of Jesus Christ as told by director-screenwriter-producer Mel Gibson. Rated: R.

**The Prince and Me** - starring Julia Stiles and Luke Mably. The story of a female student at a Midwestern university who has the dubious fortune to fall in love with a European prince spending the semester there

incognito. However, the prince is forced to choose between love and royalty. Rated: PG.

**Scooby Doo 2: Monsters Unleashed** - starring Sarah Michelle Gellar and Freddie Prinze Jr. The gang is back at it again doing battle with villains such as The Pterodactyl Ghost, The Black Knight Ghost and The 10,000 Volt Ghost in order to save the city of Coolsville. Rated: PG.

**Starsky & Hutch** - starring Ben Stiller, Owen Wilson and Snoop Dogg. The adaptation of the TV show takes place in the Bay City. It's a 'prequel' to the television series, about how the two police heroes got together, and their first case, involving a former college campus drug dealer turned big-time white-collar criminal. Rated: PG-13.

**Taking Lives** - starring Angelina Jolie, Ethan Hawke and Kiefer Sutherland. Story of an FBI agent (Jolie) who becomes involved with her key witness while tracking a prolific serial killer who assumes the lives and identities of the people he kills. Rated: R.

**Walking Tall** - starring The Rock and Johnny Knoxville. Retired soldier Chris Vaughn returns to his hometown only to find that his high school rival has shut down local industry and turned the town into a hotspot for crime and drugs. Vaughn becomes sheriff of the town and begins solving its problems. Rated: PG-13.

## Usher from page B2

infidelity. Apparently, he cheated on the one he loved and impregnated a woman he barely knew - not exactly the message that you want to send to Usher's younger fan base.

Most of the songs on the album are fun to sing along with. "Burn," "Caught up," "Yeah!" and "Confessions" are the best songs on the album. The album starts strong, but further into the CD almost 100 percent of the later songs are about sex. One song in particular goes a bit too far where he converses with another about what they will do to each other.

The album has 17 tracks including an intro and several interludes, which are unnecessary to the album.

Usher's previous four albums consist of 8701, My Way, Usher Live and Usher. Usher Raymond started out as just a church choir boy. He found success early with his debut album Usher, co-produced by Sean "P. Diddy" Combs. The album went gold. This success has created a bona fide R&B star.

**Bottom line:** A solid fifth album for Usher, but it is better suited for mature audiences.

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

### Album Info

Title: 'Confessions'  
Artist: Usher  
Release Date: March 23, 2004.

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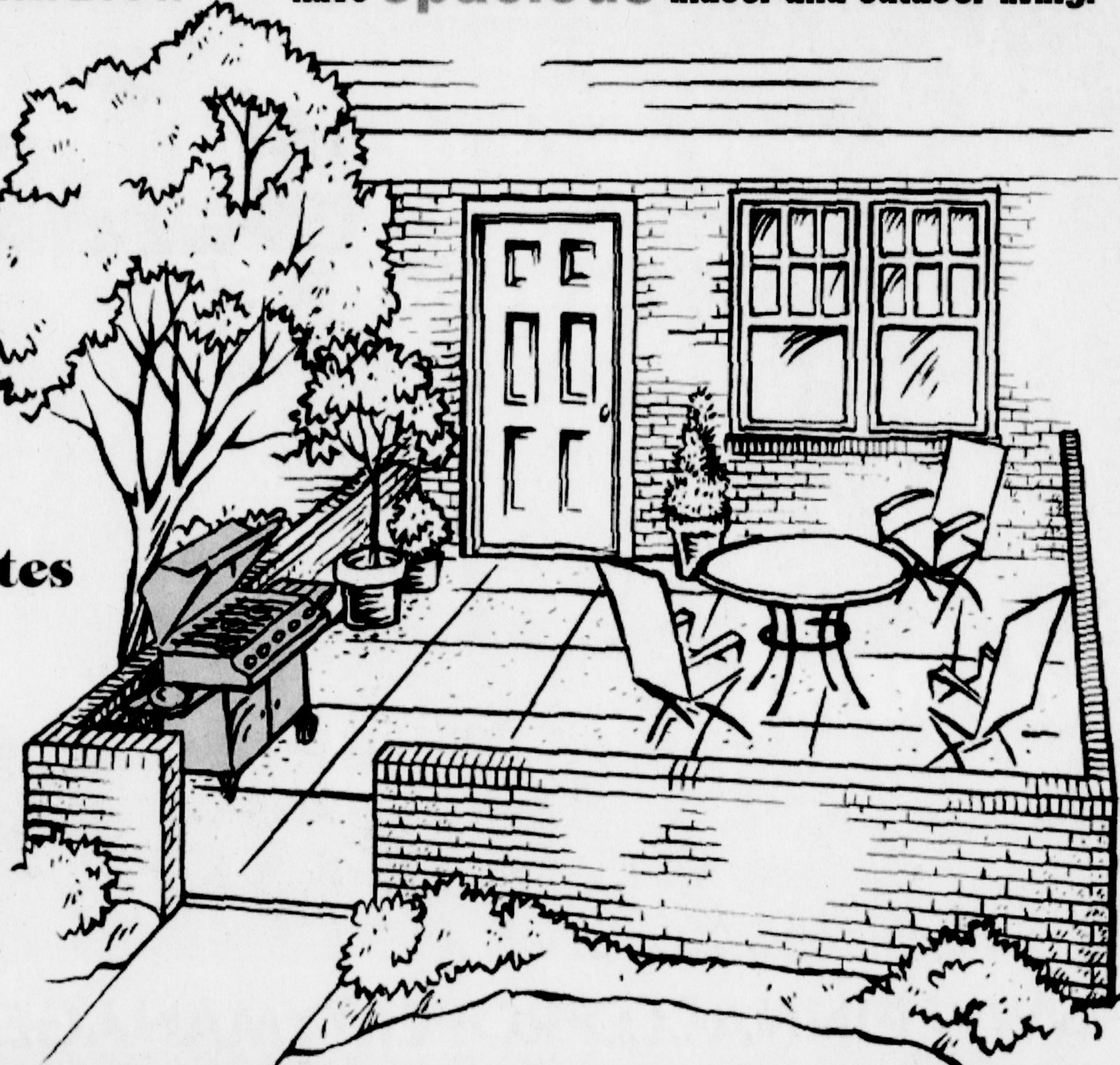
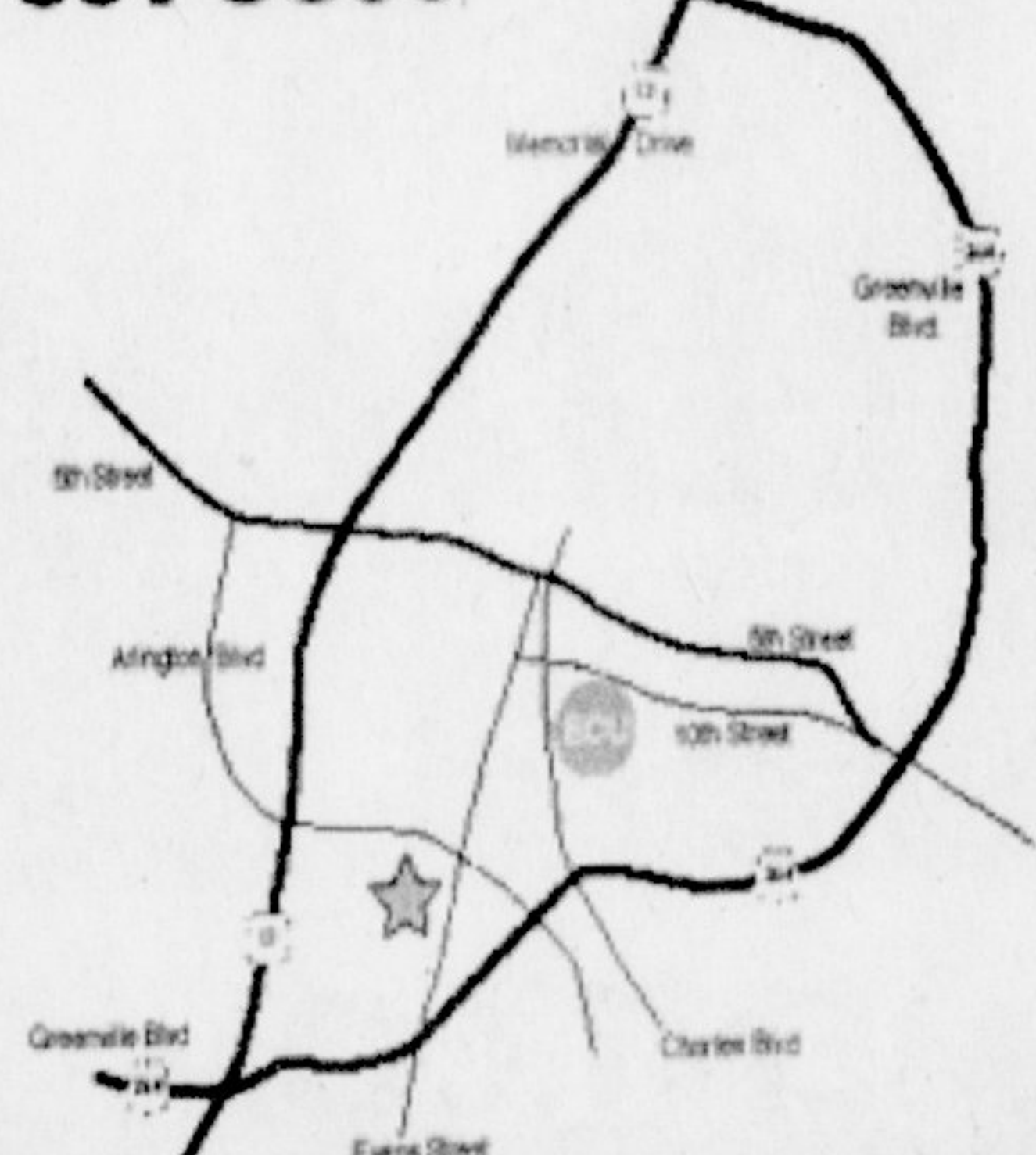
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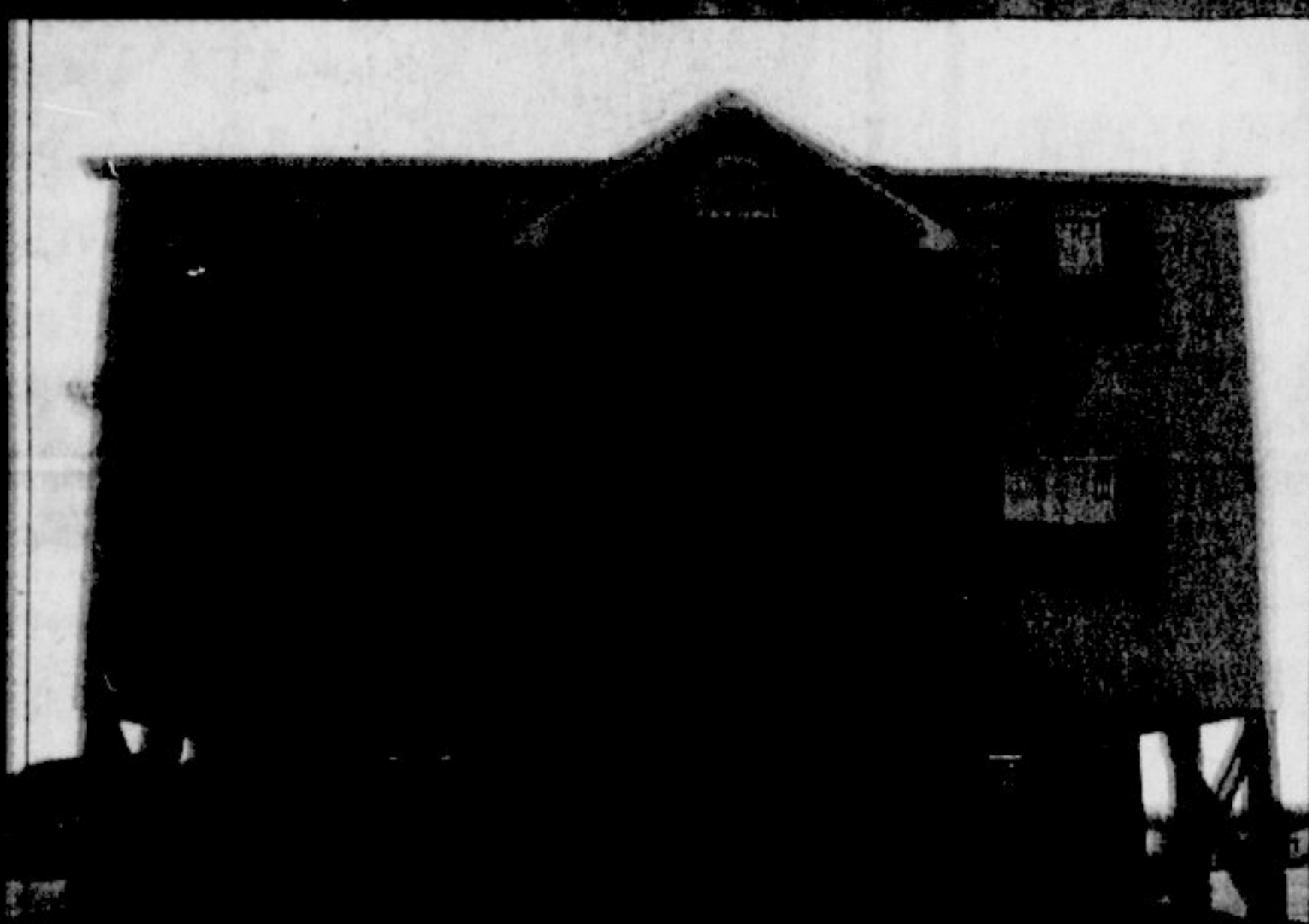
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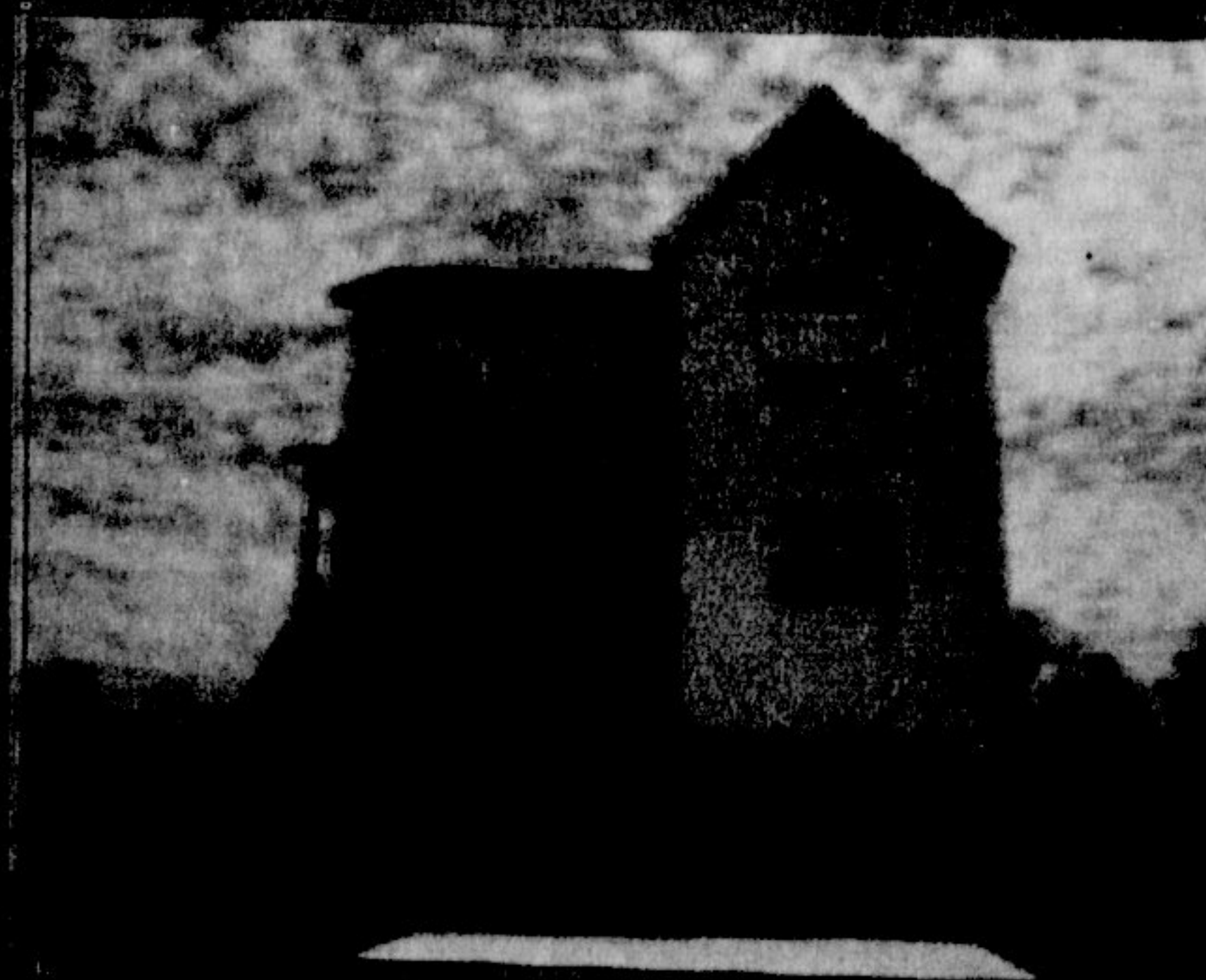
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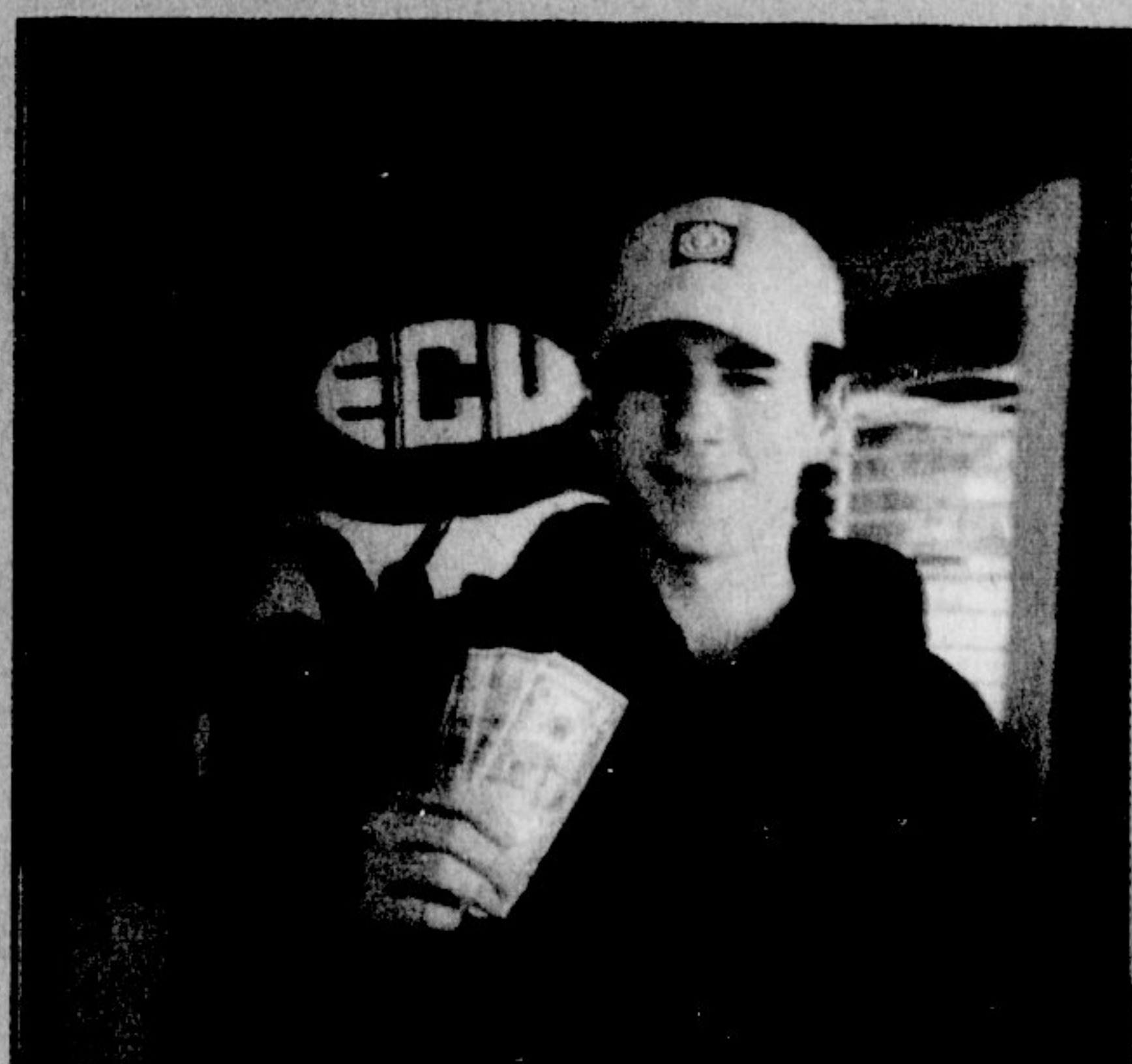
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# SPORTS

**RYAN DOWNEY**

Sports Editor

**TONY ZOPPO**

Assistant Sports Editor  
sports@theeastcarolinian.com

252.328.6366

## Announcements

### Tar River canoe trip

The Adventure program is organizing a jaunt down the Tar River for April 16. Students must register by April 9. The pre-trip meeting is April 13.

### Board & Boat Surfing

The Adventure program will head to Masonboro Island for a fun time of board and boat surfing April 17 - 18. Participants must register by April 9. A pre-trip meeting is April 13.

### Rock Climbing

Students will be given a chance to put their rock climbing skills to the test April 18. The Adventure program will head to Pilot Mountain. Participants must register by April 9. A pre-trip meeting is April 13. Harnesses and gear will be provided.

For more information on any of the above programs, please call 328-6387.

## Sports Briefs

### ECU's Millican named C-USA golfer of the month

ECU's Adrienne Millican has been named the Conference USA Women's Golfer of the Month for March, as announced by the league office on Tuesday. The junior from Fuqua-Varina, N.C. captured top individual honors at the Waterlife Invitational on March 15 - 16. Millican fired a three-round six-over-par 222, including consecutive rounds of 73 on the first two days. For the season, she has recorded four top-five finishes and six top-10's, including tournament titles at the Edwin Watts Intercollegiate and Waterlife. She currently ranks first on the team with an average 18-hole score of 76 and is ranked 67th nationally by Golfstat. This is the second C-USA Golfer of the Month honors this season for the Lady Pirates as senior Jessica Krasny claimed those honors in October of 2003.

### Trevor Lawhorn named C-USA hitter of the week

ECU second baseman Trevor Lawhorn has been named Conference USA Hitter of the Week, announced by league officials Monday. It is Lawhorn's first C-USA weekly honor of his career. Lawhorn hit a home run in each game of the Pirates' three-game sweep at Charlotte, batting .500 (8-for-16) with a three-hit game and a four-hit game. He closed out the series with three home runs, one double and seven RBI, while scoring six times. Lawhorn has now homered in four straight games to take over the team lead with 12. He and his twin brother, Darryl, have homered in the same game four times this season and in the same inning twice. In the last two C-USA series, the twins have combined for nine homers. On the season, Trevor Lawhorn is hitting .342 with 39 hits in 114 at-bats. He has 22 runs scored, a team-high 31 RBI, nine doubles and the 12 home runs in helping ECU to a 24-6 overall record and 6-3 mark in C-USA play.

### Women's Soccer claims Cup Of Life Tournament

ECU's women's soccer team improved its spring record to 7-0-1 after posting wins against a pair of nationally ranked teams at the Cup of Life Tournament this weekend in Fayetteville, N.C. The Lady Pirates got their first win of the tournament against No. 8 Florida 2-1 behind the play of junior midfielder Sarah Stoltz and Meghan McCallion. Stoltz put the Pirates up 1-0 early on an unassisted goal just minutes into the match. McCallion headed in the game-winner off a corner kick from sophomore forward Melissa Penney. Against No. 19 Duke, ECU picked up their second win 1-0 when Penney followed up a blocked shot by McCallion off the goalkeepers hands in an abbreviated 30-minute match. In the first match of the day, the Lady Pirates tied the Akron Zips 0-0 for their lone tie of the spring.

### Women's tennis shut out by Richmond

The Richmond women's tennis team extended its win streak to four matches by sweeping East Carolina 7-0 Tuesday afternoon at the UR Tennis Complex. Richmond cruised to the doubles point, winning 8-1 at No. 1 and 8-0 at No. 3. The toughest contest came in No. 2 doubles where sophomore Katie Karhofs and senior Patty Devlin teamed for an 8-6 victory against East Carolina's Gillie Bailey and Cristina Mellicke. The Spiders continued their dominance in singles. Richmond won in straight sets in five of the six matches, while sophomore Meghan Wolfram battled back for a 5-7, 6-2 (9) victory at No. 3. Junior Courtney Klein won her fourth straight match at No. 6 singles, blanking Ashley Perkinson 6-0, 6-0. Freshman Beatrice Grasu and junior Lindsay Cox combined for a win at No. 1 doubles, and then won at No. 1 and No. 2 singles respectively. The Pirates return to the courts against Appalachian State on Saturday, April 10. See Tennis Results on p. B8.

### Capitals win lottery for first pick

Something finally went right for the Washington Capitals - they won the NHL's draft lottery. The Capitals, coming off their worst season in 26 years, leaped ahead of the Pittsburgh Penguins and Chicago Blackhawks to gain this year's No. 1 overall draft pick at Tuesday's lottery in New York. The consensus prospect for the top selection is Russian forward Alexander Ovechkin, who has evoked comparisons to Pittsburgh great Mario Lemieux. The Capitals, considered strong playoff contenders with a star-packed roster at the start of the season, traded away most of their impact players after a disappointing start and finished with the third worst record in the league. They had a 14.2 percent chance of winning the lottery, behind Pittsburgh (25 percent) and Chicago (18.8 percent). Pittsburgh will choose second, Chicago third, Columbus fourth and Phoenix fifth. All 14 non-playoff teams took part. The Capitals will draft first overall for the third time in franchise history. They selected defenseman Rick Green in 1976 and defenseman Greg Joly in 1974. The draft is June 26-27 in Raleigh, N.C.

### Clippers' Brand fined after comments about refs

Elton Brand was fined \$5,000 by the NBA on Tuesday for criticizing the officials after the Los Angeles Clippers lost to Utah. Brand, who averages nearly 20 points and more than 10 rebounds per game, had 15 points and three rebounds in 36 minutes in Sunday's 97-92 loss to the Jazz. Clippers Coach Mike Dunleavy was ejected with 5:23 left in the third quarter with his second technical foul after protesting the fourth foul called on Brand.

# ECU prepares for C-USA rival USF

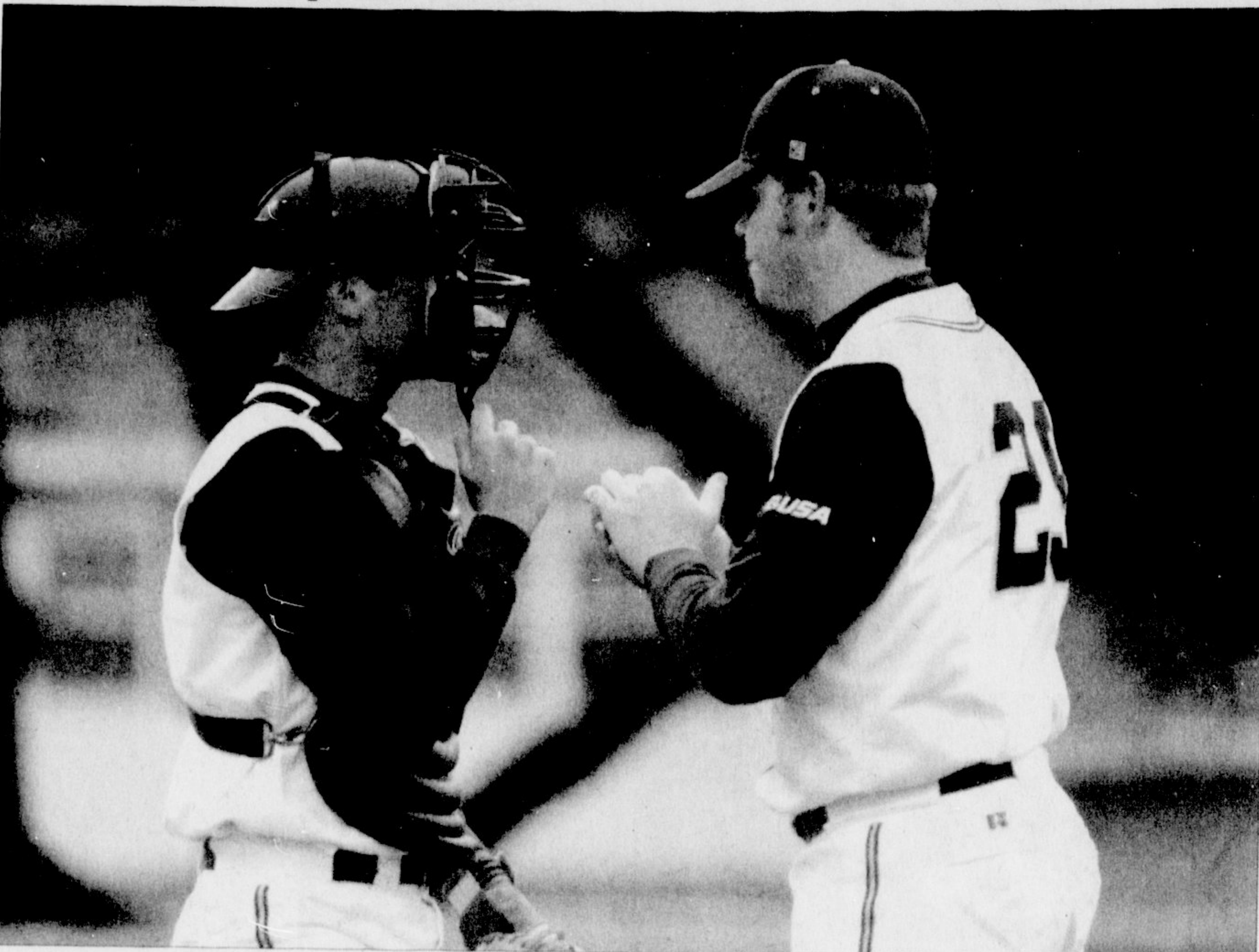


Photo by Kyle Fisher

ECU is looking to improve their conference record this weekend against the C-USA's No. 1 team - the South Florida Bulls.

### Pirates fresh off Charlotte sweep

**BRANDON HUGHES**  
SENIOR WRITER

The Pirates (24-6, 6-3 C-USA) put the finishing touches on the Charlotte 49ers over the weekend with a resounding 24-13 rout after pummeling 49er pitching throughout the series. ECU pounded out 19 hits and five home runs in the final game.

The Pirates will take on the visiting South Florida Bulls (23-8,

C-USA 7-2) in a three-game series beginning Friday. USF comes into the weekend affair with plenty of momentum after a three-game sweep of Saint Louis and a thrilling 10-8 win over Stetson Tuesday night.

Second baseman Nick Cardieri hit a two-run walk-off homer in the bottom of the 14th inning, ending the Bulls' longest game this season. The home run was the first of Cardieri's career.

#### Offense

USF has a solid offense up and down the lineup with no sure outs. The lowest average

for an everyday Bulls' player is a respectable .250.

Devin Ivany has been the leader at the plate this season, batting a team-high .404 with 35 RBIs.

Mike Macaluso, Matt McHargue, Brian Baisley and Bryan Hiermeier all have batting averages over .300. McHargue and Hiermeier have provided the power for USF this season, combining for 129 total bases and 15 home runs.

Pirate pitchers will need to keep a sharp eye on the Bulls when they reach base. USF has

plenty of speed and is not afraid to swipe second or third base. Eight players have stolen a base this season and Macaluso leads the team with 10 steals in 12 attempts. The Bulls have stolen 30 out of 42 attempts, while their opponents have just 12 steals in 27 attempts.

#### Pitching

The Bulls have an outstanding trio of starting pitchers, but a shaky bullpen at best. USF will need their starters to pitch as long into the game as possible against

see **BASEBALL** page B7

# Graduation rate system in NCAA flawed

### Teams should not be punished for low rate

**ROBERT LEONARD**  
STAFF WRITER

Academics are the reason we all attend college. I'm here to get an education so one day I can hopefully get a good job and support a family. Every athlete on this campus is here to get an education as well. They have the same requirements and classes as everyone else. The only real difference is that some of them are here for free, and I'm not required to work my rear-end off in the gym, practice, play games or take road trips.

The issue of sports programs' graduation rates skyrocketed this past week with an Associated Press story that said only 21 out of the 65 schools in this year's Men's NCAA national tournament have a 50 percent graduation rate. That stat just blew me away. In fact, only three out of the 33 first-round games had both schools with marks above 50 percent.

The study, released by the Knight Foundation which is headed up by the president emeritus of North Carolina, wants to make the 50 percent mark a requirement to enter the tournament.

My initial thought to this was it was a good thing. If a school can't graduate half of their players, why should they be allowed to represent their academic institution? It's almost like saying "We don't care if they don't graduate, as long as they can dunk, they are allowed here."

While the study did not release the schools that did not make the

cut, it did say that three of the four final four teams didn't make the cut - in fact they couldn't even graduate 33.3 percent.

I believe that since the students are representing schools, they should have this standard. If players are required to go to class and keep up grades, why shouldn't this also be a requirement? The academic standards are for individuals - this is a great way to regulate a teams' overall performance in the classroom.

When you think of positive graduation rates, you look at schools like Stanford and Ivy League schools. In fact, Colgate of the Ivy League had a 100 percent rate and Stanford had 93 percent. A lot of people don't like Bobby Knight, but he graduates his players whether it is at Indiana or Texas Tech. Mike Krzyzewski does the same thing at Duke.

As I really put some more thought into it, however, I can see that this idea is flawed big time.

Graduation rates, as the story pointed out, include players who transfer, leave early for the pros or have personal problems. College coaches at major programs recruit players they know are not going to be there for four years. It's hard for a quality athlete to pass down millions of dollars.

The main reason I am opposed to this is simple. Why should a school be banned from competing for the national championship because they recruited better players? The lure of the NBA is ever-growing, and players are leaving before they should more often. The best recent example is Josh Powell. He was a number one pick - in a European league.



Stanford's Josh Childress may have enough talent to leave school early and enter the NBA draft for the 2005 season.

see **BASKETBALL** page B8

# Lady Pirates looking to rebound at home

### ECU returns to C-USA play this weekend.

**DAVID WASKIEWICZ**  
STAFF WRITER

The ECU softball team will get back to conference play when they host South Florida in a three-game series this weekend.

Victories against USF would give the Lady Pirates three much-needed wins in the conference, as it would improve their Conference USA record to 7-8.

Three wins against South Florida will be easier said than done. The team is currently 42-7 overall and 10-2 in conference play. To top things off, the Bulls are on a 16-game winning streak which includes wins over conference rivals Louisville, Southern Miss, Charlotte and St. Louis.

Pitching has been one of



Photo by Erica Harris

ECU will attempt to take two games from USF this weekend.

the keys to success for the Lady Pirates this season and it will continue to be against USF this weekend. ECU's pitchers have

combined for an average ERA of 1.97. Junior pitcher Maggie Lingo leads the team with a 1.67 ERA and a 12-2 record this season.

Lingo has only allowed 38 runs and 88 hits in 96.1 innings pitched.

ECU's pitchers will have their hands full when they play USF, a team who has a batting average of .334.

Leading the way for the Bulls is senior outfielder Holly Groves. Groves is currently batting .447 and leads her team in hits, doubles and RBIs.

When it comes to power, Groves has that too with a .827 slugging percentage and leading her team with 14 home runs this season.

The Lady Pirates look to snap USF's 16-game winning streak in a doubleheader at home on Friday at 1 p.m. ECU will then wrap up the series with the Bulls on Saturday at 12 p.m.

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

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**Passing of torch on hold for Willie and Barry**

HOUSTON (KRT)—After four decades fooling themselves, all the long-suffering baseball fans of this city ask is an opportunity to celebrate a couple hometown hero pitchers and the distant promise of October.

And what does Barry Bonds do in the Astros' home opener at lovely Minute Maid Park?

He not only blows the foam right off this tipsy town, his Hall of Fame godfather conspires right along with him.

An actual story: Among his accumulated memorabilia, the great Willie Mays apparently has a torch he picked up before the last Winter Olympics.

So here was his proposition: When Bonds ties him for third place on the all-time home run list, Mays greets his godson at the plate with the torch.

Only that's not the end of the ceremony. Mays wants the stage lights cut and the torch lit and Bonds circling the bases like an ancient messenger in search of Athens, or maybe just a guy looking for his keys in the parking lot.

"I'll give him the torch," Mays told reporters recently, "and let him carry it as far as he can."

Fortunately, the commissioner's office informed Mays that although it was a nice sentiment, warm fuzzies don't play well on the road, where you're never quite sure what might happen when the lights are turned out.

Bad enough that Bonds would ruin the opener with career homer No. 659, a Roy Oswalt fastball on the outside corner that Bonds somehow pulled to right.

"Hardest ball I've ever seen

hit," new teammate A.J. Pierzynski said.

Said Bonds: "I don't know about that. He hasn't seen me play much."

The Astros saw plenty Monday. Besides his three-run, game-tying homer in the eighth that set up the Giants' victory, he also walked and doubled twice.

A Houston columnist was so moved by the display that he suggested Astro pitchers should avoid Bonds the rest of the series, if not in perpetuity.

Even the manager seemed tempted. Asked how you should pitch to Bonds, Jimmy Williams suggested, "Low and behind him."

Of course, this is Andy Pettitte and Roger Clemens you're talking about, the prodigal twins and source of all the locals' reckless optimism.

Pettitte not only is the Astros' best left-handed starter since Mike Hampton, no one in baseball history has more post-season wins.

Such playoff experience can't be underestimated, not when you consider that he's joining an organization that's never won a post-season series.

And what more can you say about Clemens? Back down against Bonds? The pitcher that nearly harpooned Mike Piazza?

Fat chance. Clemens already is on record that he'll do anything to get Bonds out, including getting up close and personal with a fastball like he did a couple years ago at Yankee Stadium.

As it turns out, Clemens will have to be pretty impressive Wednesday to do better against Bonds than Pettitte did in the Astros' second round against



Bonds is just one homer behind his godfather, Mays.

him.

Got him to bounce softly into a double play in the first. And judging by the reaction from 40,660 after Bonds fouled out to Mike Lamb in the fourth, you'd have thought they'd thrown Bud Adams out of a luxury box headfirst.

All in all, the Astros did an excellent job staying out of the record books for at least one more night.

Here's all Bonds had to show for the night: An intentional walk and a bloop single, and even that flare would have been snuffed out if Adam Everett hadn't turned himself in circles and belly-flopped in shallow center.

No, Barry Bonds and his climb up baseball's records wasn't the problem Tuesday.

**Baseball** from page B6

the talented Pirate offense.

Kyle Schmidt leads the staff with a 2.25 ERA and a 6-1 record. The junior right-hander has struck out 40 batters in 48 innings, but can be inaccurate at times as shown by a team-high 29 walks.

Freshman Chase Lirette has been an excellent surprise for USF coaches this season with a perfect 4-0 record. Lirette has appeared in 13 games and started three times with nearly a 3-to-1 strikeout to walk ratio.

Casey Hudspeth has started nine games for the Bulls on the way to a 5-1 record and 2.91 ERA. Hudspeth leads the team with 47 strikeouts, but has given up 68 hits in 55.2 innings pitched.

Joey Livingston, Matt Ingram and Daniel Albritton get most of the work out of the bullpen. Livingston's 4.96 ERA is the lowest of the trio and has recorded eight saves. Ingram and Albritton have got plenty of capability, but can't seem to keep their opponents from scoring. The two have combined for 38 strikeouts in 44.1 innings with just 10 walks.

**Lawhorn named C-USA hitter of the week**

Trevor Lawhorn was finally rewarded for his outstanding season as he was named Hitter of the Week on Monday. It is the junior's first Conference USA award of his career.

Lawhorn was 8-of-16 (.500)

in the weekend series against Charlotte with a home run in each game. The second baseman finished the series with three homers, one double, seven RBIs and six runs scored.

Lawhorn has homered in four straight games, bringing his total to a team-high 12 dingers. On the season, he is hitting .342 with a team-high 31 RBIs.

Lawhorn and company will begin the series with USF Friday at 7 p.m. in Greenville. The Pirates traveled to face the Duke Blue Devils last night, but the game was not complete at press time.

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



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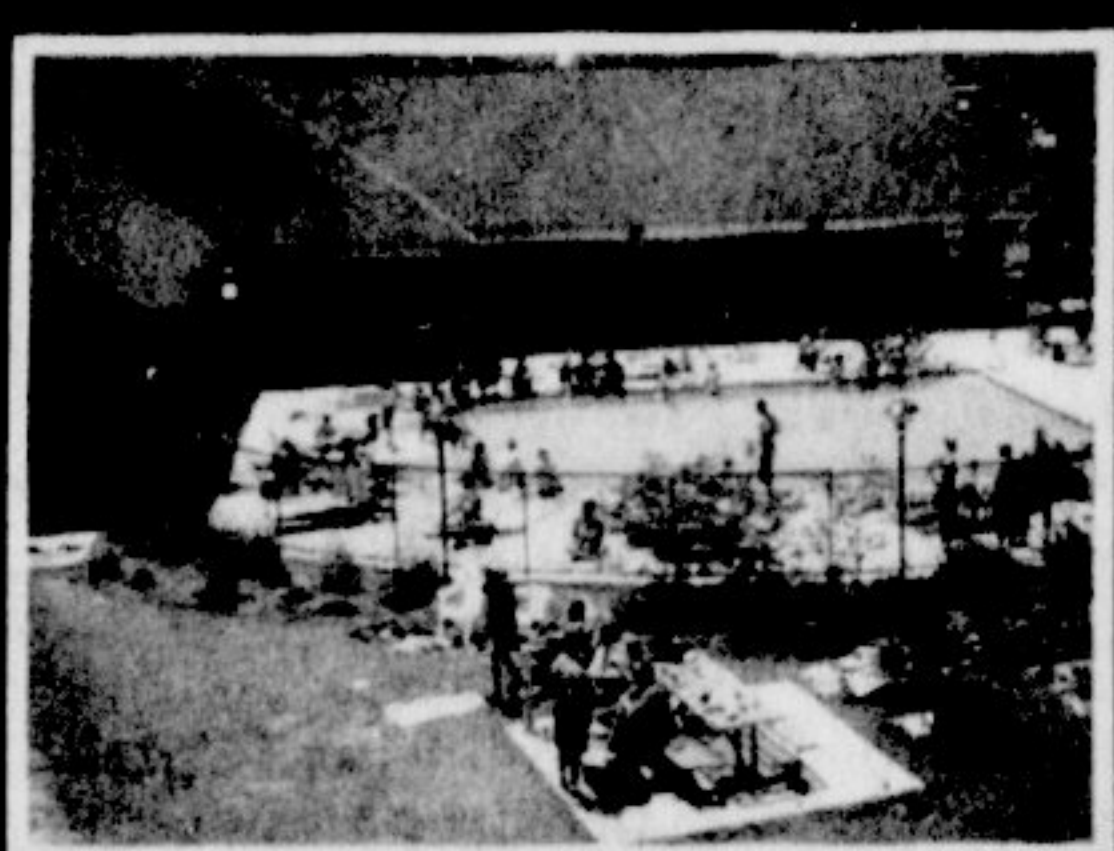
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## Young stars shine in pro sports

(KRT) - Ripped from the headlines over the past two weeks:

LeBron James becomes the youngest player in NBA history to score 40 points at 19 years, 87 days.

Aree Song, age 17, finishes runner-up in the Kraft Nabisco, an LPGA major tournament. Amateur Michelle Wie, 14, places fifth.

Freddy Adu made his Major League Soccer debut Sunday with the D.C. United at age 14.

Whoever said "youth is wasted on the young" might want to rethink that statement.

Everywhere you turn, it seems another teenager is making an impact on the professional sports scene.

There always have been sports prodigies. Bob Feller pitched in the majors at 17. Jennifer Capriati started on the pro tennis circuit at 13. Tara Lipinski won figure skating Olympic gold at 15.

But can you recall a time when so many teens in so many sports were challenging the preconceived notion of what is too young?

"Everyone is like, 'Forget it, if you are good enough, you are old enough,'" said Adu, who today becomes the youngest athlete to play in a U.S. pro team sport in more than a century.

"Don't worry about anyone else's age. If you feel like you can play at that level, then go for it," he said.

Lured by the promise of big paydays, seduced by media coverage paid to phenoms and supplemented by specialized instruction and additional games, young people are on the fast track to the big time like never before.

Some critics believe these athletic Mozarts supply false hope to thousands of kids and parents. Others point to cautionary tales such as Capriati, who flamed out at age 17 before returning to pro tennis in her 20s.

A few consider recent developments a phase, one that could end abruptly if a teen phenom is seriously injured while playing with the big boys. The NFL had six high school players apply for this



LeBron James is one of many young athletes making a splash in professional sports.

year's draft following the landmark ruling in the Maurice Claret legal case.

"The Cleveland Cavaliers wouldn't put LeBron James on the floor unless they felt he could measure up to bigger people," said Rao Unnava, an Ohio State professor of marketing whose students study sports marketing.

If somebody got badly hurt, society would pause and teams would be more careful. Eventually, something bad will happen and we'll get back to our senses."

### Basketball from page B6

Why should NC State be banned from the tournament because Josh Powell made a horrible decision?

With that thought, I understood why schools had higher graduation rates than others. North Carolina - a pretty easy answer. No one has left early since Joe Forte or transferred since the 8-20 season. Their only seniors saw action in 90-point leads and when they jumped up and clapped on a Ray Felton pass - they are graduating.

Stanford - another simple answer. They hardly ever have players that leave early for the NBA or another professional basketball avenue. Only six current players in the NBA are from Stanford, all of which stayed four years. The speculation of Josh Childress leaving early should not hurt them if this standard goes into effect.

This study only looked at the NCAA tournament teams.

Only two of the top four teams in graduation rates made the NCAA tournament (Stanford and Vanderbilt). It did not mention schools like ECU, who has five seniors graduating this spring.

If this 50 percent rule does become part of the system to make the tournament, this is how recruiting would change:

Players like Scooter Sherril and Marcus Melvin at NC State would become gold mines. They are quality players who are graduating. The same thing is true at UNC with Jawad Williams and Melvin Scott.

Players like Carmello Anthony would not be wanted because they would ruin their chances of the NCAA title.

All this would do is make a lot of schools angry and make more kids think about jumping from high school to the NBA.

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

### Tennis Results

#### Singles

1. Beatrice Gras (URI) def. Raluca Balcu (ECU) 6-3, 6-2
2. Lindsay Cox (URI) def. Kirstin Buchanan (ECU) 6-4, 6-2
3. Meghan Wolfgram (URI) def. Gillie Bailey (ECU) 5-7, 6-2 (9)
4. Robin Carter (URI) def. Cristina Mellicke (ECU) 6-2, 6-0
5. Emily Applegate (URI) def. Sara Boseman (ECU) 6-0, 6-0
6. Courtney Klein (URI) def. Ashley Perkenson (ECU) 6-0, 6-0

#### Doubles

1. Gras/Cox (URI) def. Balcu/Buchanan (ECU) 8-1
2. Karhohs/Patty Devlin (URI) def. Bailey/Mellicke (ECU) 8-6
3. Carter/Klein (URI) def. Boseman/Pekrenson (ECU) 8-0

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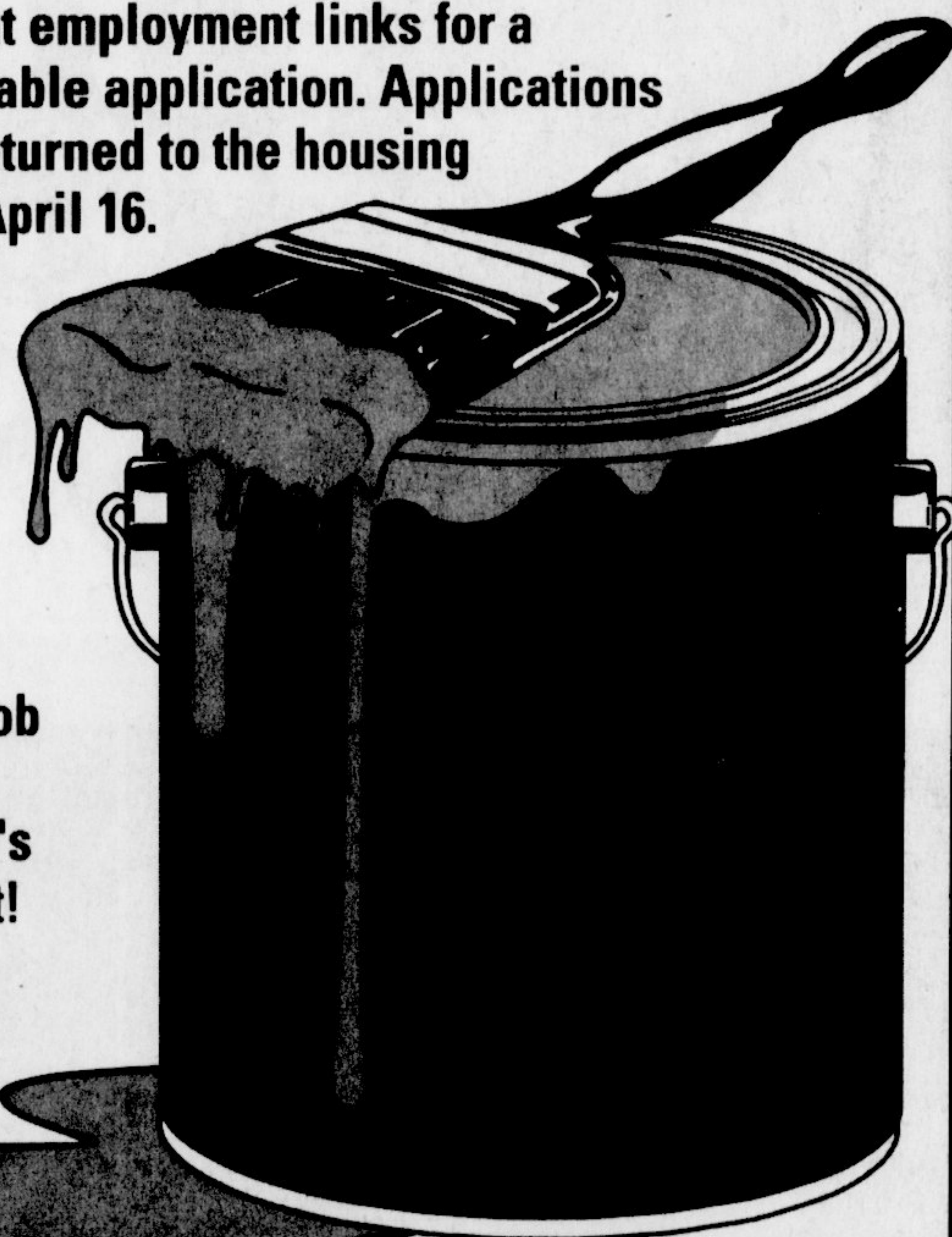
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