

The Brody School of Medicine has experienced a \$6.5 million budget cut due to increased expenses and decreased reimbursement rates.

Brody School experiences \$6.5 million budget cuts

Budget cuts, increased expenses cited as factors

NICK HENNE SENIOR WRITER

The Brody School of Medicine, faced with a \$6.5 million budget deficit during next fiscal year, is keeping all educational and medical services at the same level and is looking at other methods of making up for lost dollars.

Gary Vanderpool, executive associate vice chancellor for health sciences administration and finance, said he feels this deficit is not only affecting the school, but various other medical schools across the nation due to nationwide pressures on state budgets, increased expenses, increased indigent care and decreased reimbursement rates.

Decreased funding from the state budget, Vanderpool said, has been a factor that has affected the school each fiscal year since 1999 - 2000. Not including state budget cuts for the next fiscal year, the school has experienced an approximate total of \$14 million in these cuts over the last five-year period.

"It's just one year after another," said Vanderpool.

A prime example of increased expenses is the increased insurance fees of physicians protecting them from any malpractice that may occur in the workplace.

Vanderpool said the school is paying more than two and a half times the amount of insurance costs paid in 2002. Vanderpool said this insurance increase is a phenomenon affecting various institutes nationwide and has even driven some physicians out of practice.

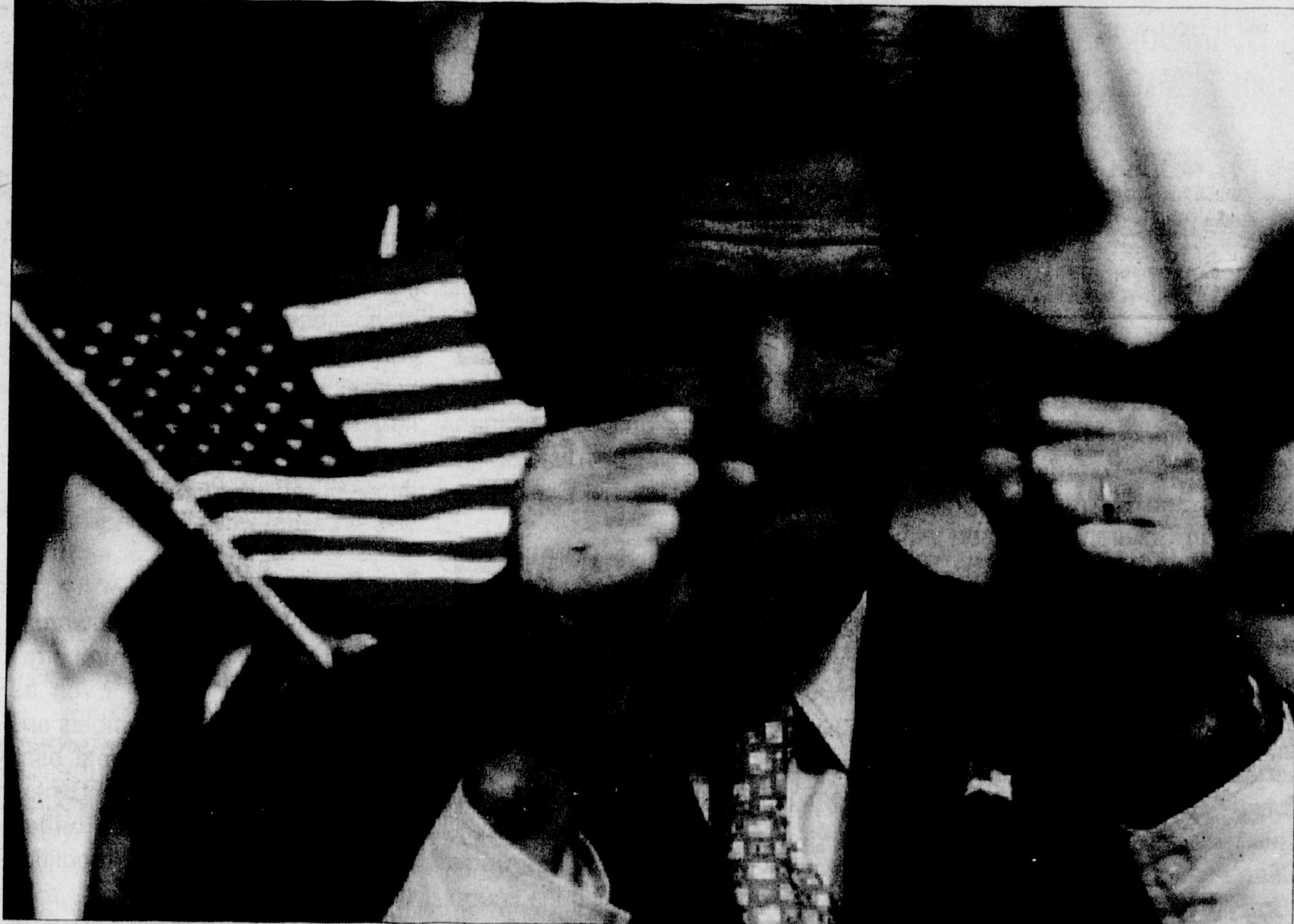
"Some states are in a severe malpractice crisis. While North Carolina is not in a crisis yet, it's having an impact in this state," Vanderpool said.

The NC State Employee Health Plan has cut the reimbursement rate they pay to physicians twice over the last three years.

Medicaid has cut the rate at which they reimburse physicians for providing medical care to Medicaid, or low-income patients who are unable to pay for medical care. Medicare, health care providing care to senior citizens, has also decreased funds provided.

see BRODY page 2

Kerry picks Edwards for Democratic ticket



John Kerry announced Tuesday that Senator John Edwards would be his running mate for the 2004 election.

WASHINGTON (AP) — Democratic presidential candidate John Kerry selected former rival John Edwards to be his running mate on Tuesday, calling the wealthy former trial lawyer and rookie senator a man who showed "guts and determination and political skills" in his unsuccessful race against Kerry for the party's nomination.

THE EAST CAROLINIAN

As Kerry made the announcement, a huge crowd of supporters burst into applause, waving handmade signs that mixed with professionally printed "Kerry-Edwards" signs kept under wraps until the last minute.

"I trust that met with your approval," Kerry said at a rally in Pittsburgh. A banner unfurled behind him – it read, "Kerry-Edwards. A stronger America."

A stronger America.

As he wrapped up his remarks

- a vintage Kerry stump speech laced

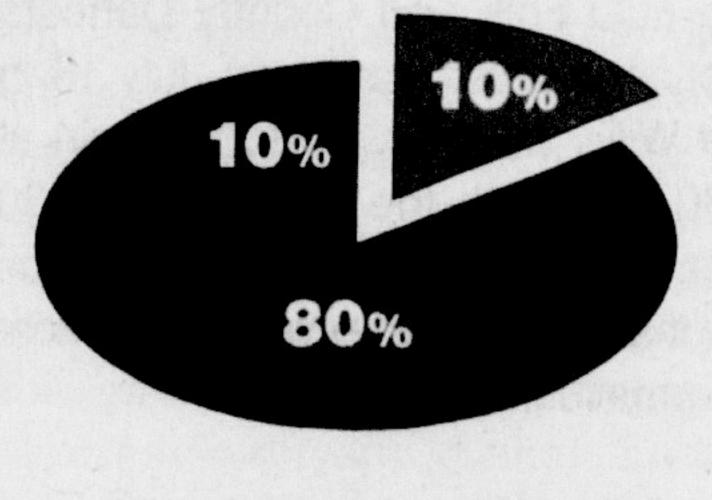
with a few descriptions of Edwards

– Chuck Berry's "Johnny B. Goode"
played, a reference to the first name
they share.

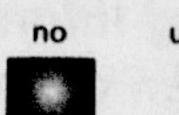
By selecting Edwards, Kerry went with the smooth-talking Southern populist over more seasoned politicians in hopes of injecting vigor and small-town appeal to the Democratic presidential ticket. Kerry, a decorated Vietnam veteran, calculated that he didn't need to add foreign policy heft to the ticket. Called aloof by his critics and reserved by his supporters, Kerry hopes Edwards adds blue-collar pizazz to the Democratic team.

Rep. Dick Gephardt of Missouri, Iowa, Gov. Tom Vilsack and Sen. Bob Graham of Florida emerged as Edwards' toughest rivals in a search that began four months ago with a list of about 25 candidates and a mandate to find a political soul mate who would be "ready at any minute"

Has John Kerry's choice in selecting John Edwards as a running mate made a change in your voting decision?







to assume the presidency.

"I have chosen a man who understands and defends the values of America, a man who has shown courage and conviction as a champion

see KERRY page 4

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FYI:

Thursday, July 8 is the last day for undergraduate students to drop term-length courses.

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INSIDE

| Opinion | page 6 |
|----------|---------|
| Features | page 7 |
| Sports | page 12 |

Announcements

Dissertation Defense

The department of communication sciences and disorders presents "Naming and Rhyme Recognition Abilities in Children Diagnosed with Childhood Apraxia of Speech" by Betty L. Smith at 11 a.m. on Thursday, July 8 in 105 Belk.

Summer Theatre

The ECU/Loessin Summer Theatre series presents Always...Patsy Cline July 6 - 10 in the McGinnis Theatre. This musical play includes many of Cline's unforgettable hits such as "Crazy," "I Fall to Pieces" and more. The play begins at 8 p.m. each night, with performances at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. on Saturday. For more information, call 328-6829.

Salsa Dance

The Folk Arts Society of Greenville and the ECU Folk and Country Dancers present a salsa dance on July 16 in the Willis Building. Lessons begin at 7:30 p.m., with the dance from 8:30 p.m. - 11 p.m. Devan and Holly will be the instructors for the evening. For more information, call 795-7980.

Parking Information

If you are a new or returning student planning to bring a vehicle to campus, you must register your vehicle and purchase an ECU parking permit. Parking on campus is limited with a maximum number of permits sold in each zone. The parking application process must be completed online through the ECU OneStop system, Onestop.ecu.edu. Permits will be mailed to applicants who register by July 16. After this date, you may register online and your permit will be held at the parking office for pickup.

News Briefs State

Bush meeting with judicial nominees in North Carolina, Michigan

LANSING, Mich. (AP) - President Bush travels to North Carolina and Michigan on Wednesday, this time to raise money and meet with nominees whose ascent to the federal Appeals Court has been blocked by partisan differences.

Bush plans to meet with North Carolina nominees at the Fourth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals and attend a fundraiser in Raleigh earlier in the day. He then will meet in the afternoon at the Oakland County International Airport near Pontiac, Michigan, with the Michigan judicial nominees and attend a fundraiser that evening at the home of a major campaign donor in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan.

Bush's visit with judicial nominees is being handled as an official presidential visit, not a campaign appearance, said Bush campaign spokeswoman Merrill Hughes Smith. Both fundraisers are Republican National Committee events.

The president's meeting with judicial nominees focuses attention on blocked judicial nominations, an issue that has been a major partisan conflict since President Clinton was in office.

The standoff has left four positions, normally held by Michigan nominees, empty on the Sixth Circuit Federal Appeals Court in Cincinnati, as well as numerous openings on other courts, including the Fourth Circuit.

The Fourth Circuit handles federal appeals from West Virginia, Virginia, Maryland, North Carolina and South Carolina.

NC doctor charged with murder of his father

ABINGDON, Va. (AP) - Police were searching for a North Carolina doctor Monday after charging him with the slaying of his father, whose body was found last week on a Washington County road with the fingers chopped off. Vince Donald Gilmer, 41, of Fletcher, North Carolina, was charged Sunday with first-degree murder in the death of 60-year-old Dalton Donald Gilmer Jr. Washington County Sheriff Fred Newman said two deputies interviewed Gilmer over the weekend and seized evidence during a search of his home, but Gilmer then disappeared.

The father's body was found along a country road on Tuesday with the fingers cut down to the palms. Detectives found a used medical glove nearby.

The body was identified Friday after checking a database of missing people. Authorities said it appeared Dalton Gilmer had been strangled to death, but they were not sure Sunday whether he died in North Carolina and was then transported to Washington County, three hours away. Police said his body was still warm when it was found.

Nation

Arizona wildfire creeps toward evacuated mountain community

SAFFORD, Ariz. (AP) - Even as firefighters using slurry bombers and bulldozers managed to beat back flames threatening a mountaintop observatory, the wildfire began licking at the edges of a mountain community.

The lightning-sparked fire in southeastern Arizona grew to 8,550 acres by Monday, officials said, and was burning a few miles from the town of Turkey Flat, which has 74 cabins.

Fire officials said flames could reach the town by Tuesday.

Shenoa Greywolf said the surrounding Mount Graham is sacred to her and her husband, who are both American Indians.

"I'm crying and praying everyday," said Greywolf. "Mount Graham is my backyard."

At a meeting Monday night, Dan Oltrogge, an incident commander for the team fighting the fire, tried to calm the community's fears but spoke frankly about strategy.

"It's doubtful that if the fire approaches that I would put firefighters in there," said Oltrogge.

The wildfire, along with a nearby 7,810-acre blaze, prompted the evacuation of a \$200 million-plus observatory and about 90 cabins on Mount Graham on Friday. Oltrogge said that the fires were not expected to join as previously predicted.

World

U.S. strike on suspected militant safe house used Iraqi intelligence

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) - A massive U.S. air strike on a suspected militant safe house in Fallujah, killing at least 10 people, was planned with the help of intelligence from Iraq's interim government, officials said.

Elsewhere, the military said in a statement Tuesday that three U.S. Marines assigned to the First Marine Expeditionary Force were killed while on duty in Western Iraq. Two died in action Monday in the Anbar province, while a third died of his wounds later Monday. Their names were withheld pending notification of families.

The U.S. aircraft dropped two tons of bombs on a purported Fallujah safe house Monday, according to officials, and turning the building into a 30-footdeep pit of sand and rubble.

The attack was in an area where Jordanian militant Abu Musab Zargawi's network is believed to have safe houses and was the fifth air strike in the area in the past two weeks.

Iraqi Prime Minister Iyad Allawi issued an unprecedented statement saying his government provided intelligence to the U.S. military for the strike.

Retired general and Megawati to face off in runoff

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP) - A former army general with a reputation for honesty won the most votes in Indonesia's first direct presidential election, but failed to get a majority and will face incumbent Megawati Sukarnoputri in a runoff, poll results showed Tuesday.

Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono rode a wave of frustration over corruption and poverty in the world's most populous Muslim nation to lead Monday's voting. But after receiving less than 50 percent support, a runoff between the two top vote-getters will be held Sept. 20.

"We thank God and the people for this," Yudhoyono's campaign manager, Rahmat Witoelar, said of his candidate's first-place finish.

A private poll by the Washington-based National Democratic Institute on Tuesday showed Yudhoyono with 33 percent, Megawati with 26 percent and Wiranto, a former military chief, with 23 percent. The figures were released on Metro TV, a privately owned news station. The system predicts election results by counting about half a million votes from 2,500 selected voting stations. It has a margin error of 1.1 percent. Using the same system, the institute has accurately predicted the results of dozens of other elections around the world.

Brody from page 1

"All of those payers, and others, have reduced the rate at which they pay us for our professional medical care," Vanderpool said.

Aside from the decreased amount of reimbursement rates, much of the medical care provided to low-income patients who do or do not qualify as Medicaid patients is not even reimbursed.

"In the state fiscal year of 2001 -2002, the amount of uncompensated care that we provided in Medicaid patients was roughly \$16 million dollars. The amount that we provided this year is over \$21 million," Vanderpool said.

"That represents the time of our physicians, the time of our support staff providing free medical care."

Vanderpool said part of Brody's social contract as a state medical school is to treat patients

who cannot afford care despite the budget deficit. He said the school will continue to uphold this contract.

"We're not going to eliminate any services," Vanderpool said.

Vanderpool adds that just about all of the jobs that have been forced to be eliminated have been administrative support type positions, which are not positions that deliver health care, and therefore do not effect the quality of medical service.

Vanderpool said these major expenses faced by the school have placed a large amount of pressure on the clinical budget, the main source of income.

The school's clinical budget, generated from medical care provided to patients, make up approximately 60 percent of the school's total income.

Plans in making up for the budget deficit include improving organizational structure, improving business processes to increase reimbursement, imposing hiring fees and recruiting more patients including university or state employees, all of whom have decent insurance policies.

One possibility the school may need to resort to is laying off workers. Vanderpool said the school will try to use every other reasonable option before they resort to this, but the option cannot be excluded as a possibility.

While the Brody School of Medicine is the cheapest medical school in the nation, Vanderpool said the school is limited on how much they can afford to increase tuition.

Vanderpool said a dramatic

increase in tuition would increase the debt of students, which would lead to other problems and would also conflict with the mission of the school to provide educational opportunities for minorities and disadvantaged students.

"The Brody School of Medicine is going through some difficult financial challenges, but we're going to come out of those challenges stronger than we were," Vanderpool

"We have strong leadership, we have committed faculty, we have committed staff, and we're going to keep seeing the same patients we've been seeing in the past and we're going to keep educating our students."

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

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Summer job market for students thought to be worst in 56 years

CHICAGO (KRT) — This summer, teens are battling adults for work.

Facing the worst job market for teens since the Truman administration, they share the same problem as job seekers of all ages: There's too much demand for too few jobs.

They are "competing with adults who have more education and more experience," said Annette King, spokeswoman for Jobs for Youth/Chicago, a nonprofit organization that helps young people find jobs. "It's a Catch-22 because they need experience to get the job but there's no opportunities to get those jobs."

New college graduates, immigrants and unemployed adults are all competing for jobs, said Andrew Sum, lead author of a study on the teen job market at Northeastern University in Boston. That's making it more difficult for teens seeking work.

Isaac Castor has been looking for a job since January, applying at Foot Locker, Gap and Old Navy.

"So far, it has been kind of hard," said the 17-year-old Chicago resident. "I'm sure I'll fill out more applications."

During the past two summers, Castor worked at the Erie Neighborhood House, a community center for low-income families, helping other teens and completing projects as a "youth mapper" and "teen outreach worker" – both paid positions.

This summer, funds to support those programs were cut, he said. In the meantime, he earns money by helping his mother around the house and driving her to and from work. He said he knows how severe the job hunt can be since his mother and other relatives had been looking for jobs in the past year.

Castor and his peers are facing a teen unemployment rate that is expected to be even higher than last summer, which was the worst in 55 years. This summer, less than

four out of 10 teens will find jobs, marking a new low, according to the Northeastern study.

The university annually surveys those between 16 and 19 years old about job prospects.

In 1989, about half of all teens were employed – or 48.4 percent – the highest in the past 10 years, the study showed.

Employers added 112,000 new jobs in June, according to a report Friday by the Labor Department. But while the economy has added 1.5 million jobs over the last 10 months, experts say it could take at least three years before teens can take advantage of the job recovery.

That's how long it will take before additional jobs trickle down to teens, Sum said.

For Jack Wuest, who works with teens to help them find jobs, the situation is "a disaster." He is the executive director of the Alternative Schools Network, an association of independent schools in Chicago.

The problem was evident at the nonprofit organization's teen job fair in June. The event had between 50 and 60 job offerings and "usually 70 or 80 kids show up," said Wuest. "This year 400 kids showed up."

Still, older teens – 18 and 19 – are faring better than younger teens, especially if they have good grades and strong communication skills, said Renee Ward, founder and executive director of Teens4Hire.org, a national online career center.

Jobs related to vacation and tourism – those at hotels, resorts, swimming pools, parks and museums – are the most popular employers for teens this summer.

The best opportunities for younger teens are at juice bars and ice cream shops, Ward said.

Jason Krieger, owner and store manager of Jimmy John's in Chicago, said his sandwich shop has hired teenagers as young as 16.

But currently the store has older teenagers on staff. Krieger, who has owned the shop for seven years, is surprised by the number of students in college who have come back to work at the restaurant this summer.

Meanwhile, many college students are struggling to find work related to their major.

Alnierys Venegas, 18, a sophomore at Wright College in Chicago, currently is working part-time at research firm Abt Associates Inc. as a telephone interviewer. But she wants to find a full-time job within her communication major.

Similarly, Wainaina Mathari, 21, a second-year student at Harold Washington College, also is looking for a full-time job within his major, finance.

Although Mathari has a parttime job at a financial institution, he wants a full-time job for the summer. Finding one, he said, is harder.

That's why he and Venegas sought. assistance from Jobs for Youth. "All the help you can get helps," said Mathari. "It's a lot easier than it would be doing it on your own."

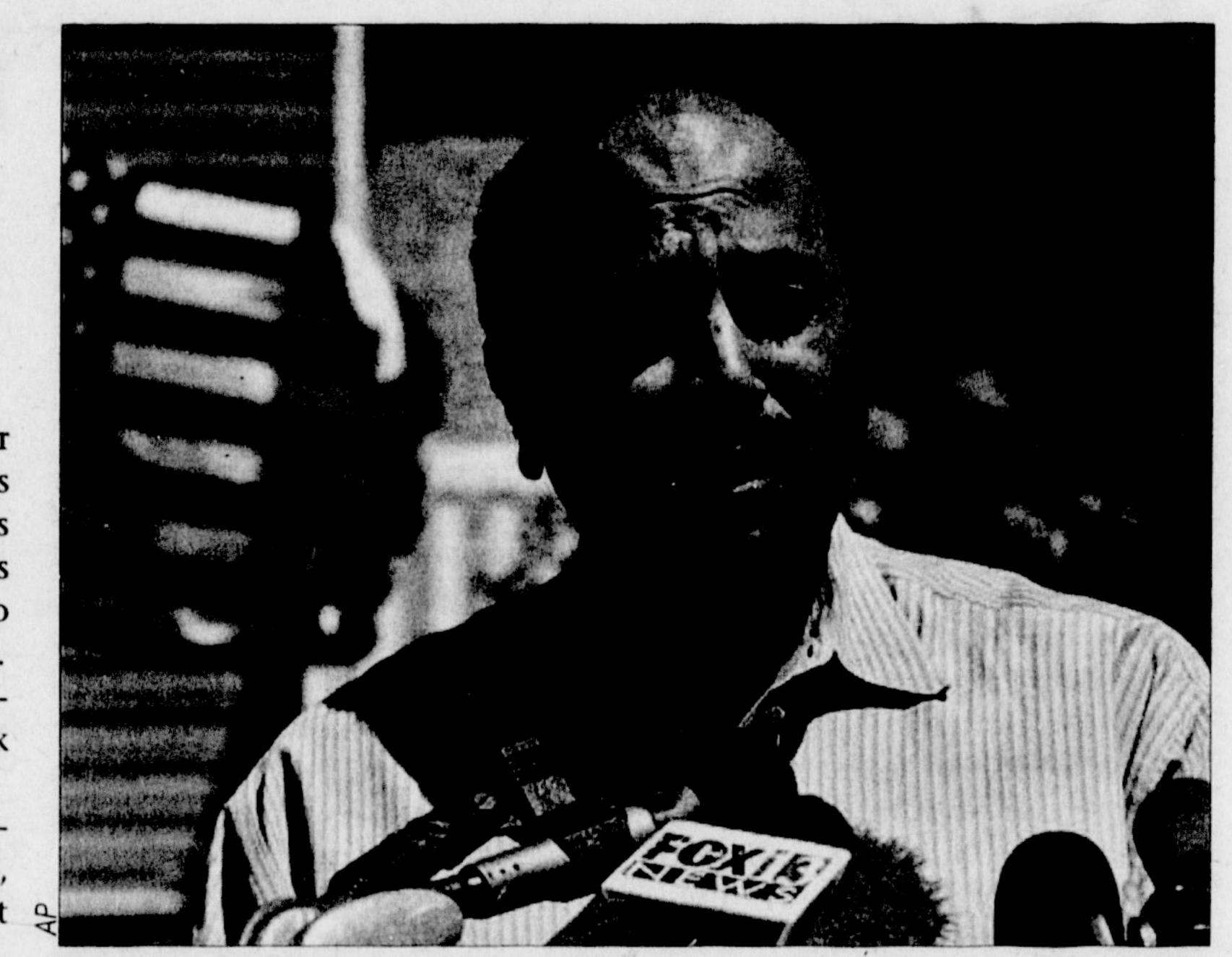
The two students recently finished the group's eight-day course on honing job skills; such as interviewing techniques, and are seeking new jobs.

Still, Sum said teens have an opportunity to get a job if they work hard at finding one.

"If they aggressively look, they have a better chance than last year. They must cast a wide net to increase the chance of someone calling back," he said, adding that many teens surveyed submitted 20 to 25 applications. "Kids have to do a lot more applying than in years past."

Castor, who will be a senior at Chicago's Wells High School, said he's not letting the tough job market discourage him.

"I know there's a job for me," Castor said. "And when that job comes, I'll get it."



Family spokesman Tarek Nosseir makes a brief statement to the media outside the home of relatives of U.S. Marine Cpl. Wassef Ali Hassoun Monday, July 5 in West Jordan, Utah. Hassoun was captured in Iraq.

Brother says missing marine in Iraq freed

WEST JORDAN, Utah (AP) — The family of a U.S. Marine abducted in Iraq stayed out of the public eye Tuesday in this Salt Lake City suburb after a relative in Lebanon said he had been freed.

Cpl. Wassef Ali Hassoun, a translator with the Marines in Iraq, disappeared on June 20. On Saturday a militant group claimed it had beheaded him, a claim that was later denied.

On Tuesday, a brother of the Lebanon-born Marine said the family was confident he was well.

"We have received reliable information the guy is free," Sami Hassoun told The Associated Press from the northern Lebanese city of Tripoli, where the missing Marine has family.

Though he had not spoken with his brother, Sami Hassoun said "we received a sign from my brother reassuring us."

There was no immediate response to calls seeking comment from Wassef Ali Hassoun's family in West Jordan or from family spokesman Tarek Nosseir.

There were no signs of activity at the Hassouns' home. Window blinds were drawn and about 30 American flags and a Marine flag were planted in the well-tended lawn.

Television camera crews waited outside a media encampment across the street and news media trucks were parked around the neighborhood.

On Monday, a group calling itself Islamic Response had said in a statement sent to Al-Jazeera television that he was safe and had promised not to return to the American mili-

tary.

"We pray that the news of his safe release is true," Nosseir said Monday. "If he is still in captivity, we remind the captors of the saying of our beloved prophet: Be merciful to those on earth, mercy will descend upon you from heaven."

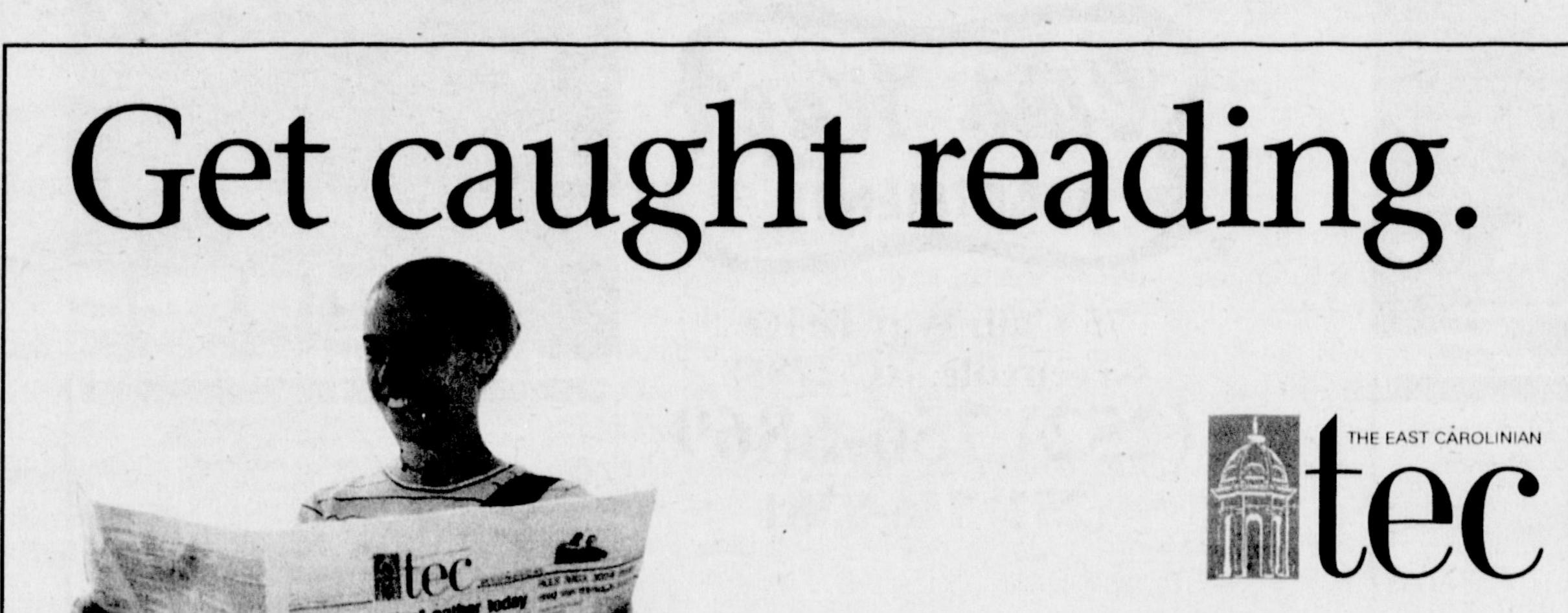
The family had been grieving since Saturday, when a militant group claiming to be the Ansar al-Sunna Army said on a Web site that it had beheaded the 24-year-old Marine. But the group said Sunday it did not issue the statement, and a posting on another Internet site said Hassoun was alive

Hassoun, educated at American schools in his native Lebanon before moving to the Salt Lake City area, was serving his second stint in Iraq as a translator fluent in Arabic, French and English.

Other militant groups have captured and threatened to behead other foreign Muslim hostages, creating an uproar among many Muslims, including other militants. All the captured Muslims aside from Hassoun have been released unharmed.

Hassoun's father, Ali Hassoun, who lives in Tripoli, Lebanon, repeatedly pleaded for his son's release. He and his other sons have contacted politicians and Muslim clerics in Lebanon and Islamist groups in Iraq in hopes of securing the Marine's release.

"We renew our request of all people of the world to continue to pray for his safe release," said Nosseir, who has spoken for Hassoun's brother, Mohammed, and family in West Jordan.



for middle-class Americans and for those struggling to reach the middle class, a man who has shown guts and determination and political skills in his own race for the presidency of the United States, a man whose life has prepared him for leadership," Kerry said while Edwards remained at home in his posh Washington neighborhood.

President Bush's re-election campaign wasted no time to criticize the choice. His political team planned to air a television ad featuring former Republican rival John McCain and titled "First Choice," an effort to paint Democrat John Kerry's running mate as his second choice.

McCain, the Arizona senator, rejected Kerry's overtures to be No. 2 on the Democratic ticket.

"He has not wavered, he has not flinched from the hard choices, he was determined and remains determined to make this world a better, safer, freer place," McCain says in the ad, referring to Bush.

The Republican National Committee called Edwards a "disingenuous unaccomplished liberal' and "friend to personal injury trial lawyers."

The ad alludes to what Republicans hope will be a problem for Edwards - his lack of foreign policy experience and political seasoning. It is not a new argument for Kerry -during the Democratic nomination fight, Kerry groused to associates that Edwards had no right seeking the presidency afterdess than one term in the Senate.

Aides said the Massachusetts senator steadily warmed to Edwards, first in the primary campaign, where he stood against Kerry until the end without going negative. After pulling out of the race, Edwards campaigned aggressively on Kerry's behalf and urged his contributors, mostly trial lawyers, to donate to his former rival's campaign.

Edwards' advisers, meanwhile,

waged a quiet campaign on the North Carolina senator's behalf. Both Edwards and Gephardt had top aides who joined the Kerry campaign in recent weeks.

Edwards was at his home in Georgetown when Kerry called, readying his two young children for summer camp. Kerry called from his Pittsburgh home.

Obsessed with secrecy, Kerry kept his decision to himself until the last possible minute, giving Edwards no time to get to Pittsburgh in time. The newly minted ticket will meet up late Tuesday in Pittsburgh, where the candidates and their families will have dinner together at Kerry's estate. They fly to Ohio, a major battleground state, on Wednesday to their first joint appear-

They will be nominated at the Democratic National Convention in Boston, which begins July 26. Kerry hopes to dominate the political landscape in the run-up to the convention, fleshing out his candidacy for voters who know little about him and hopefully opening a lead against Bush. Polls show the race is tight.

Edwards was the last major candidate standing against Kerry in the Democratic presidential race. He emerged as a favorite second choice of Democratic voters, thanks to his youthful good looks, a self-assured manner and an upbeat, optimistic style. He saved his harshest criticism for Bush, whom he accused of creating "two Americas" - one for the privileged, another for everyone

Some Democrats were concerned that Edwards, whose only political credential was a single term in the Senate, lacked the experience in international affairs, particularly in wartime, to be a credible candidate to assume the presidency in the case of death, resignation or removal.

Edwards and Kerry had-few

major policy disagreements - both supported the decision to go to war in Iraq, for example, and both voted against the \$87 billion package for Iraq and Afghanistan.

One division was over the North American Free Trade Agreement - Kerry voted for it, but Edwards campaigned against NAFTA, which the Senate approved before he was elected. Edwards made trade, jobs and the economy the centerpiece of his campaign, questioning Kerry's vote on NAFTA, but not pledging to seek its repeal.

They also differed in some ways on how to approach some issues. Both called for rolling back the Bush tax cuts, but Kerry proposed eliminating the tax cuts for those who make more than \$200,000 a year while Edwards set the ceiling at \$240,000. Kerry voted against the ban on so-called "partial birth" abortion passed by Congress, but Edwards did not vote. A more clearcut difference was Kerry's opposition to the death penalty and Edwards' support of it.

Kerry finished first and Edwards second in the Iowa caucuses in January, surprising front-runner Howard Dean and driving regional favorite Gephardt out of the race. Dean finished second to Kerry in the New Hampshire primary, and as Dean lost the next dozen delegate contests, the race became a contest between Kerry and Edwards.

Yet Edwards could never muster enough momentum to overtake his Senate colleague. He won only a single state during the competitive phase of the primary, his native South Carolina, and ended his bid following the 10-state Super Tuesday elections on March 2. North Carolina gave Edwards a victory in its first presidential caucus on April 17, but the vote meant more as a boost to his standing at the Democratic National Convention and to his potential as a running mate.

Economy at midyear on track for best growth in two decades

WASHINGTON (AP) - The economy appears headed for a banner year despite a springtime spike in energy prices and a recent increase in interest rates.

In fact, many analysts are forecasting that the overall economy, as measured by the gross domestic product, will grow by 4.6 percent or better this year, the fastest in two decades.

There were strong 4.5 percent growth rates in 1997 and 1999, when Bill Clinton was president and the country was in the midst of a record 10-year expansion.

If this year's growth ends up a bit faster than that, however, it will be the best since the economy roared ahead at a 7.2 percent rate in 1984, a year when another Republican president - Ronald Reagan - was running for re-election.

"We are moving into a sweet spot for the economy with interest rates not too high, jobs coming back and business investment providing strength," said Diane Swonk, chief economist at Bank One in Chicago, who is predicting GDP growth of 4.8 percent this year.

President Bush is highlighting the improving economy while Democratic challenger John Kerry has focused on what he calls a middle-class squeeze of rising health and tuition costs and laid-off workers forced to take lower-paying jobs.

Who will win on the all-important pocketbook issues? Economists aren't sure.

"It is unclear whether voters will remember the past year and the better jobs created during that period or the past four years," said Mark Zandi, chief economist at Economy.com.

"It will be a close call and that is one of the reasons the election could be so close."

Assessing the economy at mid-

year, most private economists are sticking with the optimistic forecasts they had six months ago, even though inflation, driven by surging energy prices, rose higher than expected and the Federal Reserve started raising interest rates last month.

"We are looking for a darn good year despite the fact that we had a big jump in oil prices and interest rates are going up faster than people thought would occur," said David Wyss, chief economist at Standard & Poor's in New York.

Offsetting those drags on the economy has been stronger growth in Japan and China, which helps U.S. exports, better-than-expected consumer spending and much better job growth than analysts were expecting as the year began.

The economy has now created 1.5 million new jobs since last August, compared with a loss of 2.7 million jobs in the previous 29 months, when the country was struggling with a string of blows from a collapsing stock market to a recession and terrorist attacks.

Even with the 10 months of consecutive job gains, Bush is still facing a 1.2 million jobs deficit, from the last peak for employment in March 2001.

However, many analysts anticipate the economy will generate around 200,000 jobs per month over the next six months, a pace that would be enough to erase his deficit figure by the end of the year. That would enable him to escape being the only president since Herbert Hoover in the Great Depression to have lost jobs while in office.

Although the economy created only 112,000 jobs in June, after averaging 304,000 jobs for the previous three months, analysts expect strong job growth the rest of this year.

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ROBBIE DERR Features Editor

features@theeastcarolinian.com 252.328.6366

Horoscopes

Aries (March 21 - April 19) - Keep everybody headed in the right direction and you may notice a difference. It'll get easier to be a wise leader.

Taurus (April 20 - May 20) - Be a stickler for the rules. Go by the book. Don't be rushed into making a mistake. Gemini (May 21 - June 21) - You're learning quickly now, so surround yourself with people who have the skills you're determined to acquire. Cancer (June 22 - July 22) - Something that at first looks like a

barrier is actually your chance to grow stronger, wiser and more powerful.

Leo (July 23 - Aug. 22) - You'll want to take off on an adventure, but that's not a good idea. Keep a promise you've made to an older woman.

Virgo (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22) - New resources become available for improvements to your home.

Postpone a get-together with friends.

Libra (Sept. 23 - Oct. 22) - A

confrontation suddenly brings you to
your senses. Of course, you can't go
along with a person who's trying to
pull a scam.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21) - Dig into your work with ferocious intensity. By concentrating hard, you'll move with superhuman speed and maximize your profits.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)

- True love renews, and that may be just what you need now. Don't plan an expensive night on the town.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19) - The

Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19) - The pressure is on to finally fix something that's worn or broken.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18) - You'll be able to reassure a friend who's plagued with difficulties. You can figure out a solution to one of this person's problems.

Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 20) Conditions are right for a raise or a
promotion. If you're in a dead-end
job, now is the time to check out the
want ads.

and the state of t

Always... Patry Cline comes to ECU

Musical honors legend

CAROLYN SCANDURA STAFF WRITER

The name Patsy Cline means something different to everyone who hears it. Some people hear one of her famous songs such as "Walkin' after Midnight," "Crazy" or "I Fall to Pieces." Some people see the legendary Patsy Cline dancing through their mind in her performances at the Grand Ole Opry. No matter what picture comes to mind, Patsy Cline was an incredible country-western performer with a warm "pop" feel. The ECU/Loessin Summer Theatre has brought Always...Patsy Cline to

the university in honor of the legendary country-western singer.

Patsy Cline was born Virginia Patterson Hensley on September 8, 1932. Her friends called her "Ginny" and her fans know her best as Patsy Cline. Although Cline had been entertaining her friends and family since the age of three, her career as a country-western/pop artist did not really take off until 1957 when she appeared on "The Arthur Godfrey Talent Scout Show" and won first place. From then on, major o record companies and her tours with "big-name" country-western artists turned her world upside-down. She became friends with such stars as

see CLINE page 10



Calvert and Carter, two visiting actresses, practice one of their scenes for ECU's Summer Theatre production of Always...Patsy Cline.

Being aware saves you time and money

Identity theft can affect you

NICHOLAS VICK STAFF WRITER

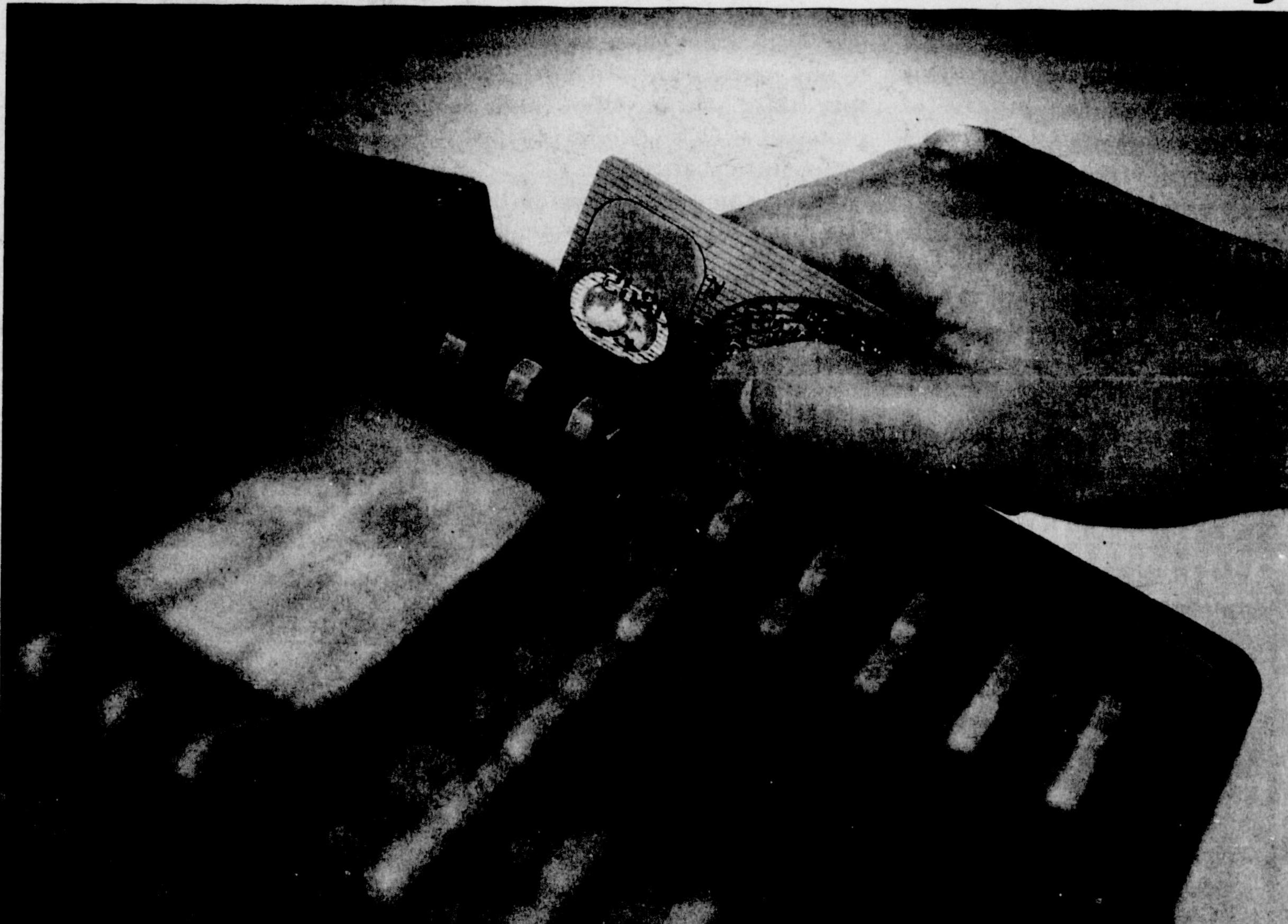
Everyone has had a good laugh at the ridiculous commercials on television having to do with identity theft. You have no doubt seen them yourself, even if you were unaware of it. There is one commercial of a girl in a dentist office who speaks in a robotic man-like voice, talking about the great time he had last weekend spending lots of money and having fun.

Such advertisements are indeed hysterical, but at the same time informative and helpful. The commercials are actually intended to sell viewers a new type of credit card that can detect identity theft and stop it before it has a chance to put a severe, irreplaceable hole in your bank account.

If you have been fortunate enough to have never been a victim of identity theft, and know nothing of it, here's what it is – a term used to refer to all types of crimes in which someone wrongfully obtains and uses another person's personal data (social security number, etc...) in some way that involves fraud or deception, typically for economic gain. Yes, it's still OK to use mom's credit card, but only if she said it was all right.

What should someone do if they think their identity has been stolen? First and foremost, contact the fraud departments at any one of the three major credit card bureaus to place a fraud alert on your credit card. This alert asks creditors to tell you before any new accounts are opened or before any changes occur to existing accounts.

The second step is to close any



Identity theft is a major problem sweeping the nation. Make sure you know who has access to your credit cards, where you are using your credit cards and what you do with your receipts.

and all accounts you feel have been tampered with. Next, file a police report detailing as much pertinent information as possible relating to the crime. It's important to keep a copy of this police report in the event that one of the credit card companies asks to see proof of the crime.

The last step is to file your complaint with the Federal Trade Commission. The FTC maintains a database of identity theft cases for law enforcement agencies that may conduct a criminal investigation. These steps may seem assiduous at first glance, but are necessary and should be taken seriously.

Two real problems exist with identity theft other than money being taken illegally out of someone's account. One is credit-reporting agencies believe you owe the money – they will not take the time to investigate the possibilities of theft.

"Not only will they (credit reporting companies) automatically think you owe the money, but they also won't do anything to help," said Bleston Wright, a senior at ECU.

Bank One employee, Linda Stumpo agreed with this, but added, "The credit card companies won't do anything because their main concern is to get the money. That's why it's so important to report the theft immediately."

The other serious issue with identity theft is the burden of proof is always placed on the person whose identity was stolen.

"I think the best way to sum it all up is this – how can you press criminal charges if you don't have a person to press them against?"
Wright said.

"The other side of the coin is that your credit report will be really messed up if a substantial amount of money was taken from your account.

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see THEFT page 8

Musiç downloading: harmful or helpful?

New study could turn tables for music downloaders

NIKKI JENKINS

STAFF WRITER

We have all heard about the controversy surrounding music downloading. CD sales are declining and the music industry is pointing the finger at music-swapping software such as Napster.

To back up its claim, the industry has funded research to investigate the effects of music downloading. One such study is that of the retail tracker SoundScan.

According to CNET News.com, SoundScan's study examined sales at roughly 9,000 retail stores near more than 3,000 universities. The retail tracker found that record sales have dropped an average of 4 percent in the past two years. This study, and others like it, have fueled the record industry's legal battle against file-sharing companies like Napster and MP3.

However, fans of file sharing may have a good reason to celebrate. Recently, several studies have challenged the record industry's accusations. Felix Oberholzer-Gee from Harvard Business School and Koleman Strumpf from the University of North Carolina did an independent study in 2002. The results were extremely surprising.

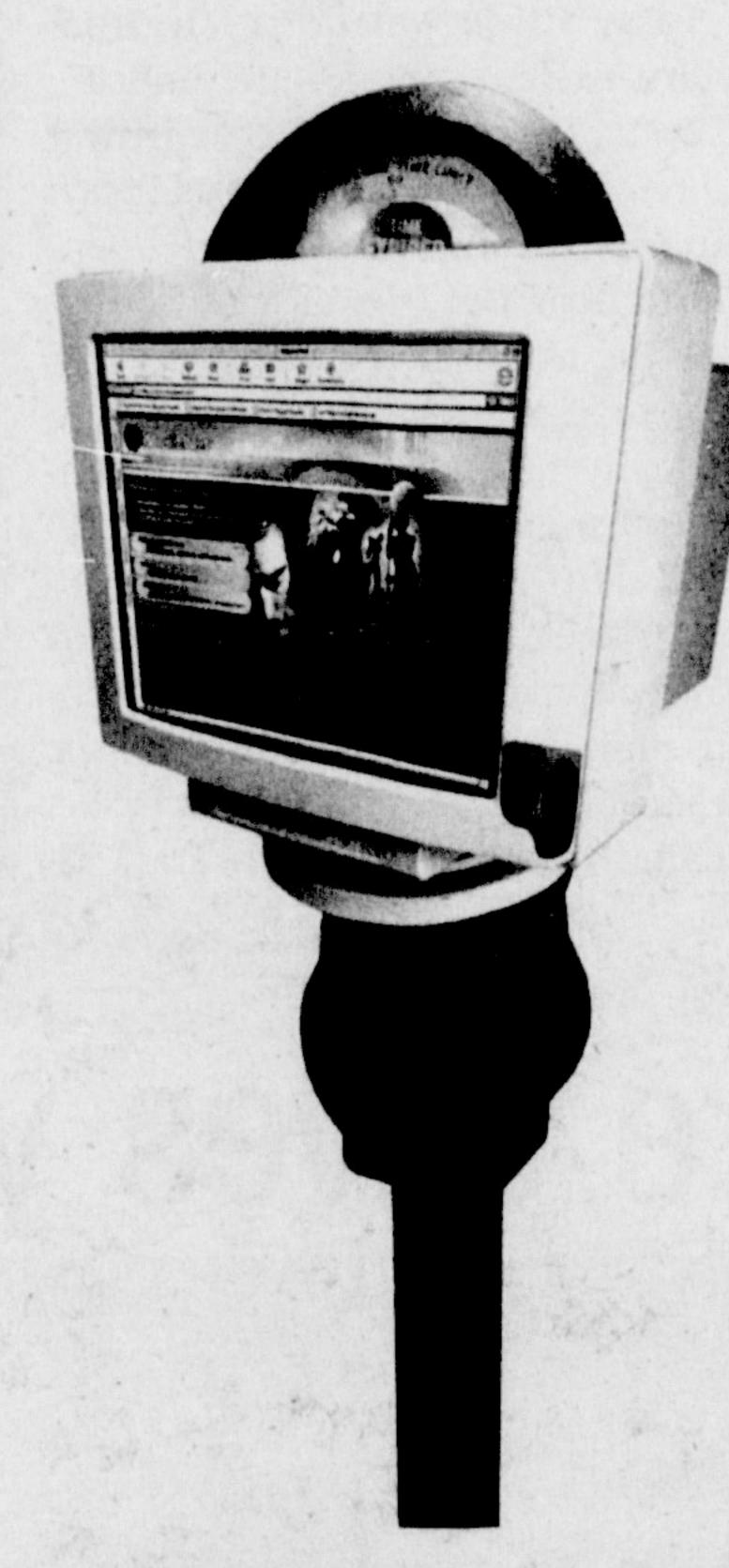
According to their study, file sharing had no effect on the sale of popular CDs in the second half of 2002. Moreover, Oberholzer-Gee and Strumpf found that for the top 25 percent of albums, every 150 downloads increased sales by one copy.

Networks such as Napster have many supporters in the music world.

In an interview with *The Guardian*, Wayne Rosso, chairman of P2P United, asserts that P2P networks actually act as a form of advertisement for artists.

"They're probably right. Down-loading probably encourages people to buy music if they like the clips they hear," said Dr. Elliot Frank, a professor at ECU's School of Music and a musical artist.

Even some well-known artists like Dave Rowntree, drummer of Blur, question how researchers could know for certain if people spent less on CDs because they



downloaded music.

A perfect example would be ECU student Kenneth Taylor Jr., who says that if he didn't download music free, he would simply

do without.

"CDs are overpriced," said Taylor.
"Why would I pay \$17 or more
for 12 songs? Especially when I only
want to listen to one?"

Jack Kirk, manager of Dr. Wax CD store, sides with cash-strapped students like Taylor, saying that the record industry is reaping the benefits of inflated CD prices.

Even economists say the drop in record sales could be interpreted in many ways. Evidence shows that college music store sales dropped even more in 1998 than in 1999 – a year before Napster was written and released. So there may be other reasons for the record industry's sales slump. For instance, competition with online music stores may be partially responsible.

In any case, it is clear the debate concerning illegal music downloading is only getting started. While the record industry and file sharing companies battle it out in the courts, unfortunately, everyday consumers are caught in the middle.

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

Theft from page 7

We're talking six to seven years until it's back to normal," Stumpo said.

Is the fast-paced Internet shopping a contributor to the identity theft phenomenon?

"Probably not," Stumpo, who has dealt with several identity theft cases in the last couple of years, said.

"It's just as easy for someone to drop their credit card in the mall, and someone else pick it up."

"People are all concerned about the Internet, but the truth is, if you go out to eat, a waiter can get your credit card just as easily," Wright said

How are ECU students reacting to the identity theft crisis that has become so prevalent within the last few years? Some were unfamiliar with the entire concept while others knew of someone (a wife or family member, for instance) who had been the victim of identity theft.

"I'm not really that worried about it, but I probably should be. It's something that you have to be on the lookout for," Wright said

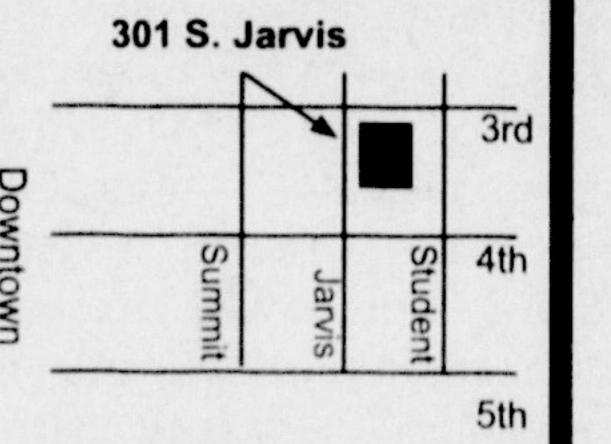
Identity theft can be prevented with the proper methods, but people everywhere should be fully aware of the financial problems identity theft can cause.

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

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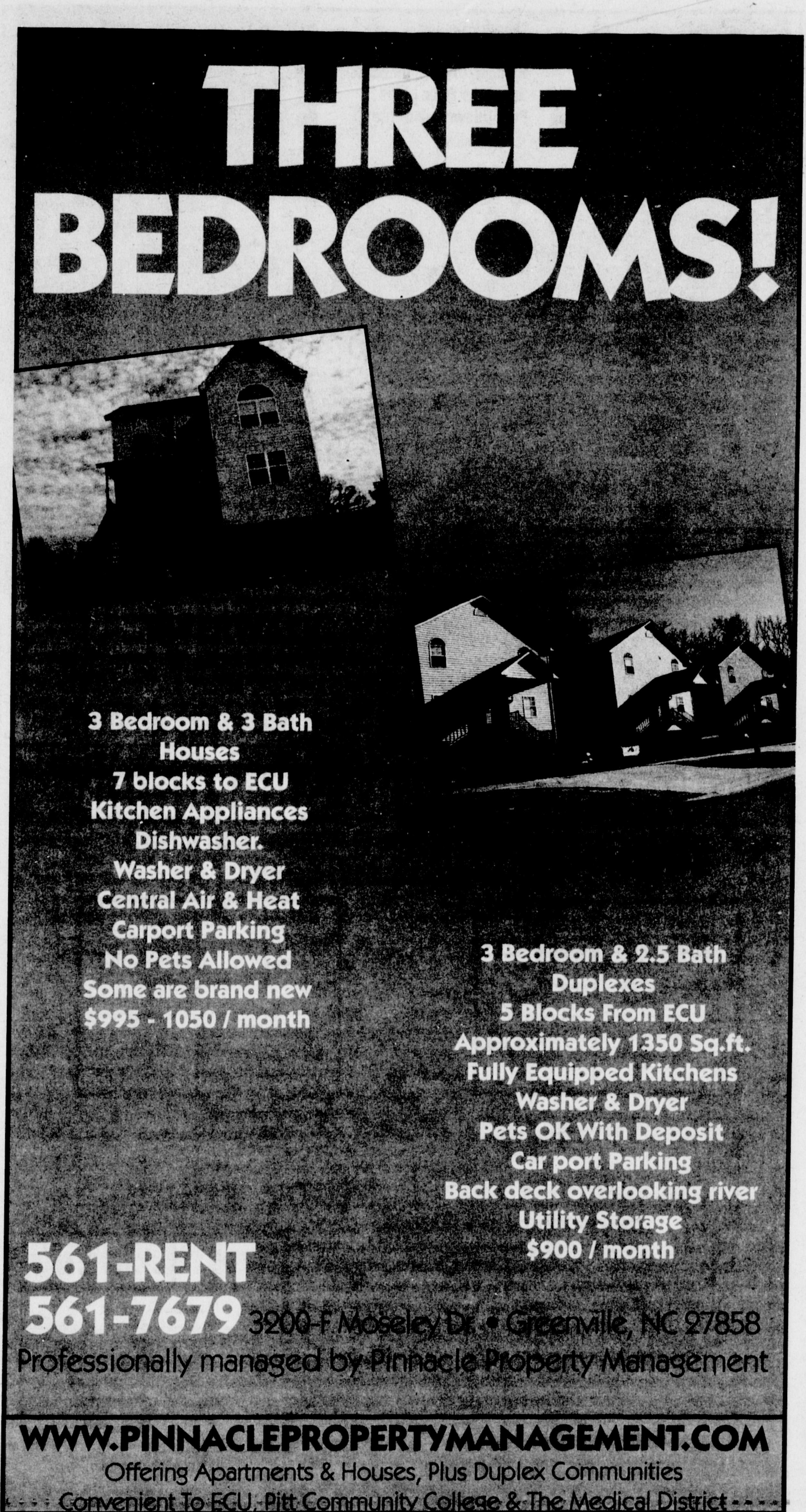
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Cinema Scene

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The Butterfly Effect – Showing today at 9 p.m. at the SRC outdoor pool and July 8 at 7 p.m. in Hendrix Theatre.

IN THEATRES THIS WEEK

Anchorman: The Legend of Ron Burgundy – When feminism marches into the newsroom in the form of ambitious newswoman Veronica Corningstone, Ron is willing to play along at first, as long as Veronica stays in her place, covering cat fashion shows, cooking and other "female" interests. But when Veronica refuses to settle for being eye candy and steps behind the news desk, it's more than a battle between two perfectly coiffed anchor-persons ... it's war. PG-13 Comes to theaters July 9.

Story – In this raucous comedy, a small local gym is threatened with extinction by a gleaming sports and fitness palace unless a group of social rejects can rise to victory in a dodgeball competition. PG-13

Fahrenheit 9/11 – Filmmaker Michael Moore examines the events of 9/11 and the political landscape surrounding the attack. R

Garfield – In his film debut Garfield's owner, Jon, takes in sweet but dimwitted pooch Odie, turning Garfield's perfect world upside down. But when the hapless pup disappears and is kidnapped by a nasty dog trainer, Garfield, maybe for the first time in his life, feels responsible. PG

Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban – Harry Potter and his friends Ron and Hermione return as teenagers to Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry for their third year of study, where they delve into the mystery surrounding an escaped prisoner who poses a dangerous threat to the young wizard. PG

King Arthur – The Roman Empire has begun to crumble, and England has been torn apart by territorial tribes clamoring to rule all the lands. It is up to Arthur and his ragtag group of warriors, including Lancelot and worthy fighter Guenivere, to unify the country and bring peace. PG-13



Shrek 2 – A sequel to DreamWorks' hugely successful original, the story opens with Shrek and Fiona returning from their honeymoon to find a letter from Fiona's parents inviting the happy couple to dinner. Mom and Dad heard their daughter had wed, but they assumed she married Prince Charming. So they're a bit shocked when they meet their new son-in-law. PG

Spider-Man 2 – Peter must face new challenges as he struggles to cope with the gift and the curse of his powers while balancing his dual identities as the elusive superhero Spider-Man and life as a college student. PG-13



The Chronicles of Riddick – Riddick, the anti-hero from Pitch Black, has spent the last five years on the move among the forgotten worlds on the outskirts of the galaxy, eluding mercenaries bent on collecting the price on his head. R

The Notebook – A young woman comes to the coastal town of Seabrook, North Carolina in the 1940s to spend the summer with her family. Still in her teens, Allie Hamilton (Rachel McAdams) meets local boy Noah Calhoun (Ryan Gosling) at a Carnival. Over the course of one passionate and carefree summer in the South, the two fall deeply in love. PG-13

The Stepford Wives – A couple moves to what appears to be the perfect small town. Soon, they learn of a plot the men of the town have constructed to render their partners perfect. PG-13

The Terminal – Tom Hanks stars as an air traveler inadvertently exiled to JFK airport after a coupe in his homeland erases the validity of his passport. He finds himself the victim of bureaucratic red tape and is forced to take up residence in the terminal. PG-13

Two Brothers – Two Brothers is the story of twin tiger brothers who are born amidst the temple ruins and jungles of French Indo-China. Separated as cubs and taken into captivity, one tiger is forced to become a circus performer, the other a killer. PG

White Chicks - Shawn and Marlon Wayans play two ambitious but unlucky FBI agents who go deep undercover as female, high society debutantes to infiltrate the sophisticated world of the Hamptons to investigate a kidnapping ring. PG-13

Cline from page 7

Loretta Lynn, Ray Price and Johnny Cash. These friendships with fellow stars were important, but her most important friendship was with her number one fan, Louise Seger. Seger was a Houston, Texas housewife who saw Patsy Cline on "The Arthur Godfrey Talent Scout Show" and was deeply touched by her performance. She narrates Always...Patsy Cline.

Cline lived to the age of 30, dying in 1963. Though her life was short and her career ended abruptly, she accomplished many great things. She became one of the first singers to do multiple performances at the Grand Ole Opry and on the "Johnny Cash Show." She appeared on "Dick Clarks's American Band Stand" and appeared at Carnegie Hall in New York. Patsy Cline even has her own star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

The play gives audiences an inside look at Patsy's life from her best friend and confidant and features 27 of Patsy's hits, showing her accomplishing many things that most performers only dream of.

The play, written and originally directed by Ted Swindley, is based on the true-life story of Virginia Patterson Hensley (Patsy Cline). Ted Swindley wrote Always...Patsy Cline in 1997, but had written and directed more than 200 plays before his tribute to Patsy Cline. Swindley is the founding artistic director of Stages Repertory Theatre in Houston, Texas. The family and estate of Patsy Cline licensed the play, which is why it is such an honor to have Always...Patsy Cline performed right here at ECU.

The main characters of the performance are Patsy Cline, played by Carter Calvert, and the narrator Louise Seger, played by Lynda Clark. Calvert is "very excited to make her debut at the ECU/Loessin Summer Theatre in the role of the legendary Patsy Cline."

Calvert has appeared in many on and off Broadway roles and is credited with originating her role in the Broadway tour of Ain't Nothin'
But the Blues. She has appeared on
the "David Letterman Show," "Rosie
O'Donnell Show" and "The Today
Show." She has even opened for
shows by Liza Minnelli, The Temptations and Chubby Checker.

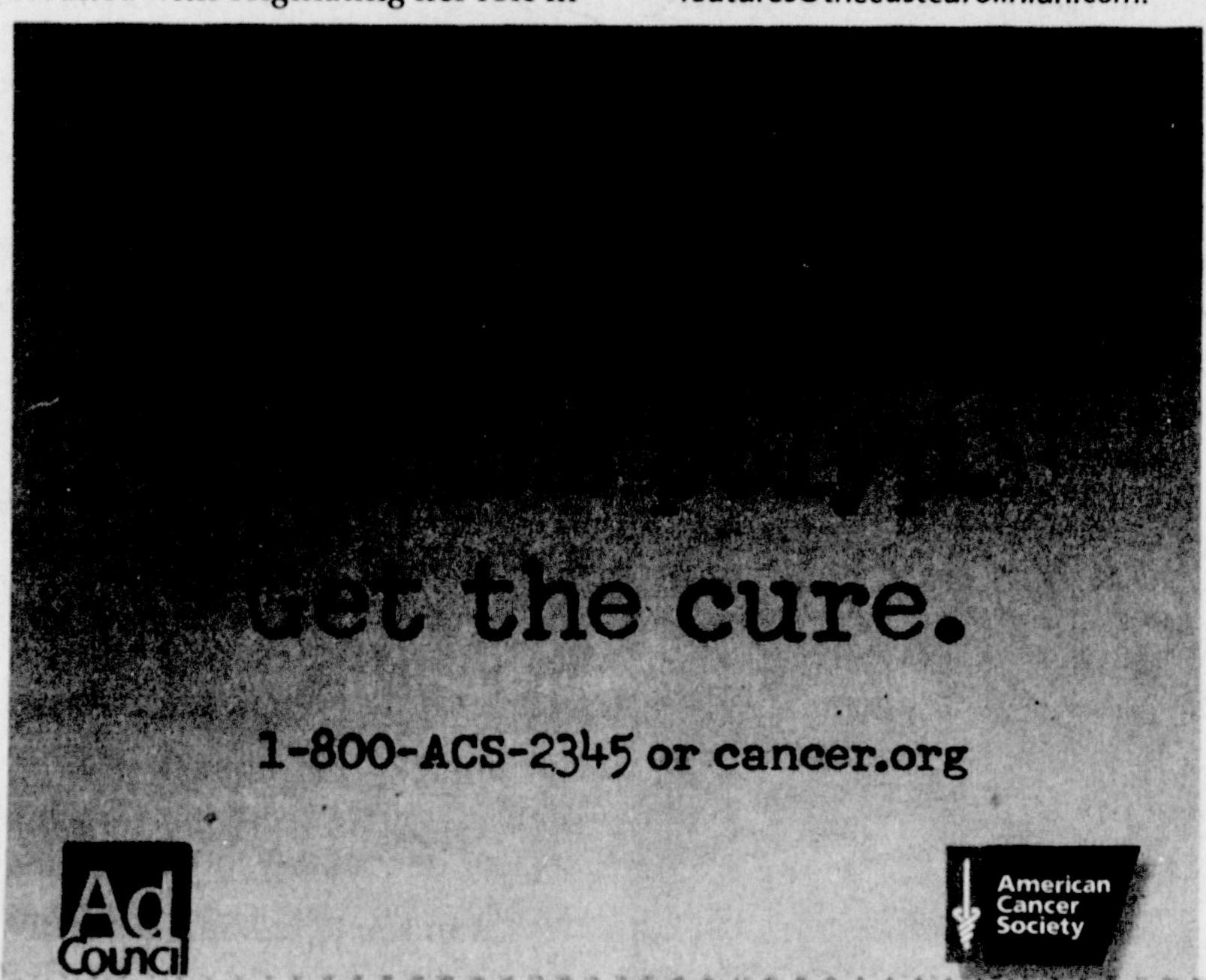
In 1993, she was named Best Female Vocalist of the Year by Starsong Records and *Downbeat Magazine* named her Best Female Jazz Vocalist. Her debut CD, "Fever" will be available during intermission at the show.

Lynda Clark, "Louise," has been in many TV shows and movies such as "Matlock," "The Perfect Crime" and "I Know What You Did Last Summer." Her strong performance background has made her a wonderful addition to the ECU/Loessin Summer Theatre's performance of Always...Patsy Cline. She has also been in performances such as A Street Car Named Desire, Criminal Hearts and Macbeth, all performed at ECU. Spectator Magazine, Independent and The News and Observer have named Clark Best Actress in the Triangle. With stars like these, Always...Patsy Cline is an incredible tribute to an incredible woman.

The summer theatre is presenting Always...Patsy Cline July 6 - 11. Tickets are available at the McGinnis Theatre Box Office by calling 328-6829 or going online to: http://www.theatre-dance.ecu.edu. Tickets for the public are \$30, \$27.50 for seniors and \$15 for youth tickets.

Jeff Woodruff, the managing director, and John Shearin, the producing artistic director, along with many talented ECU students, have put an incredible amount of work into this performance. Make an event out of this opportunity to see such wonderful performers telling such an incredible story. Get dressed up, grab some friends and enjoy the show.

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



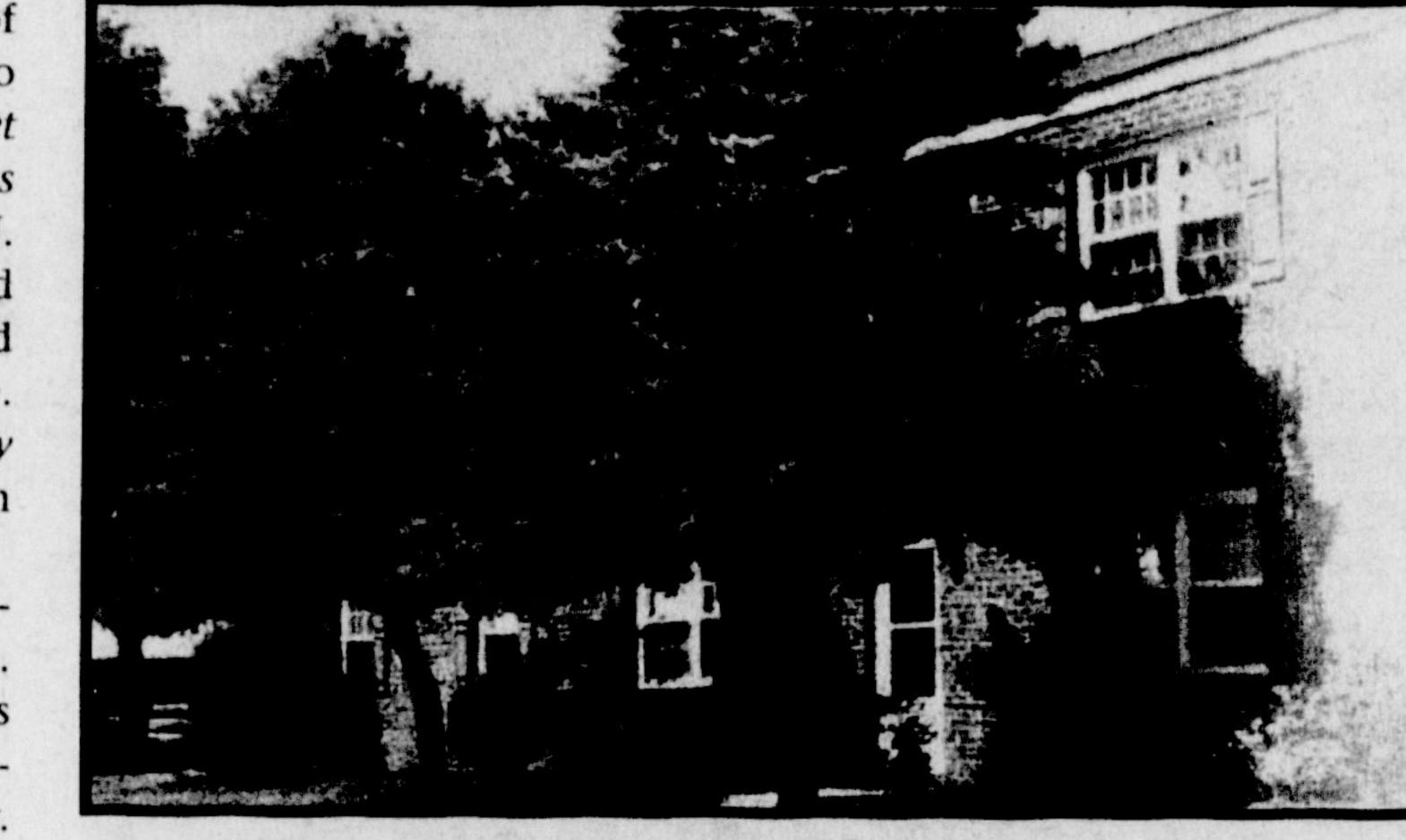
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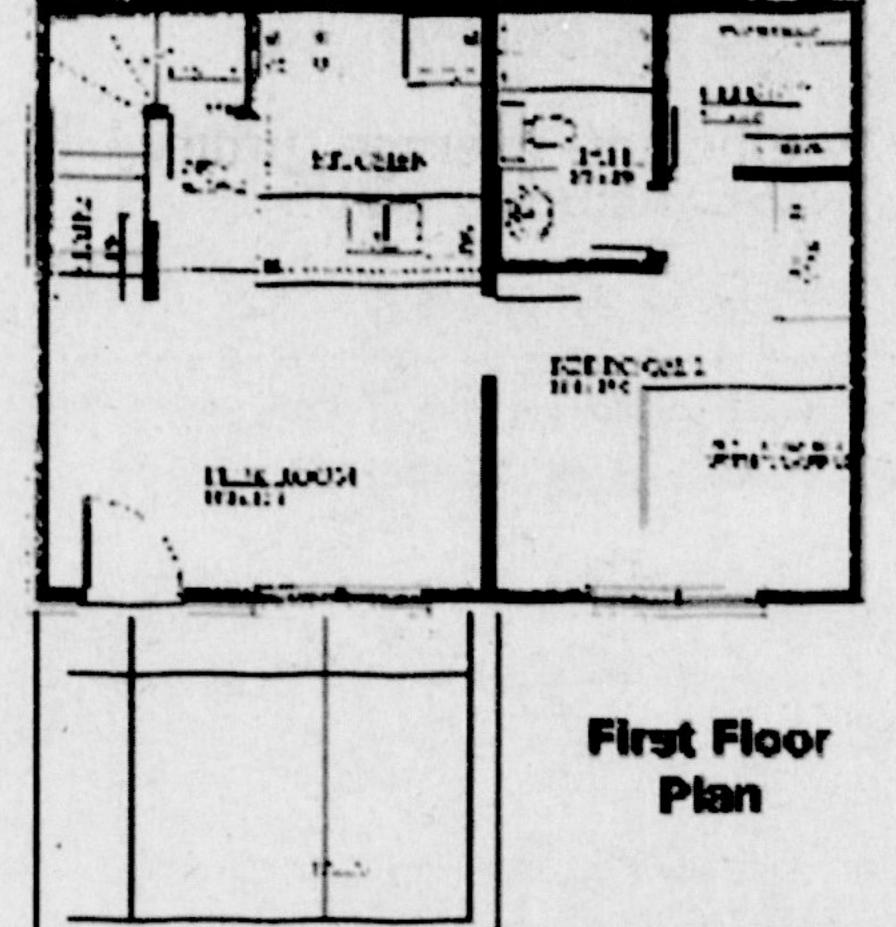
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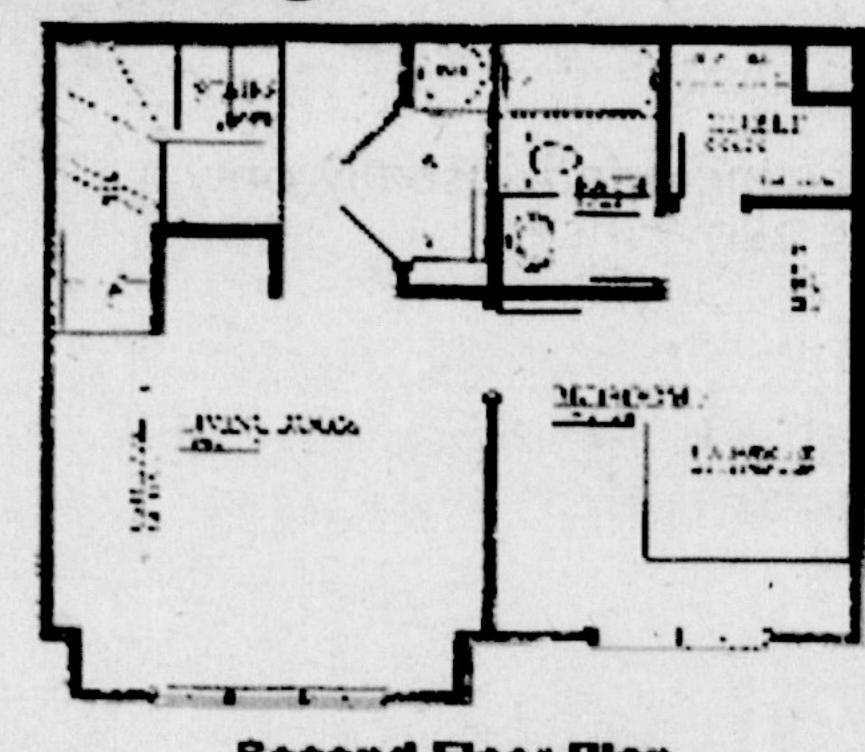


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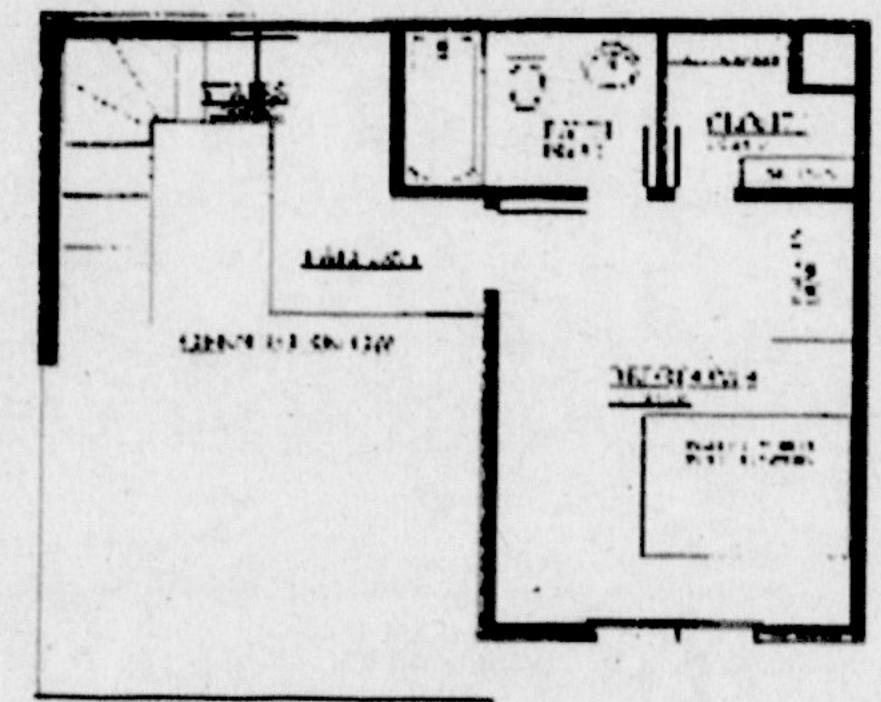
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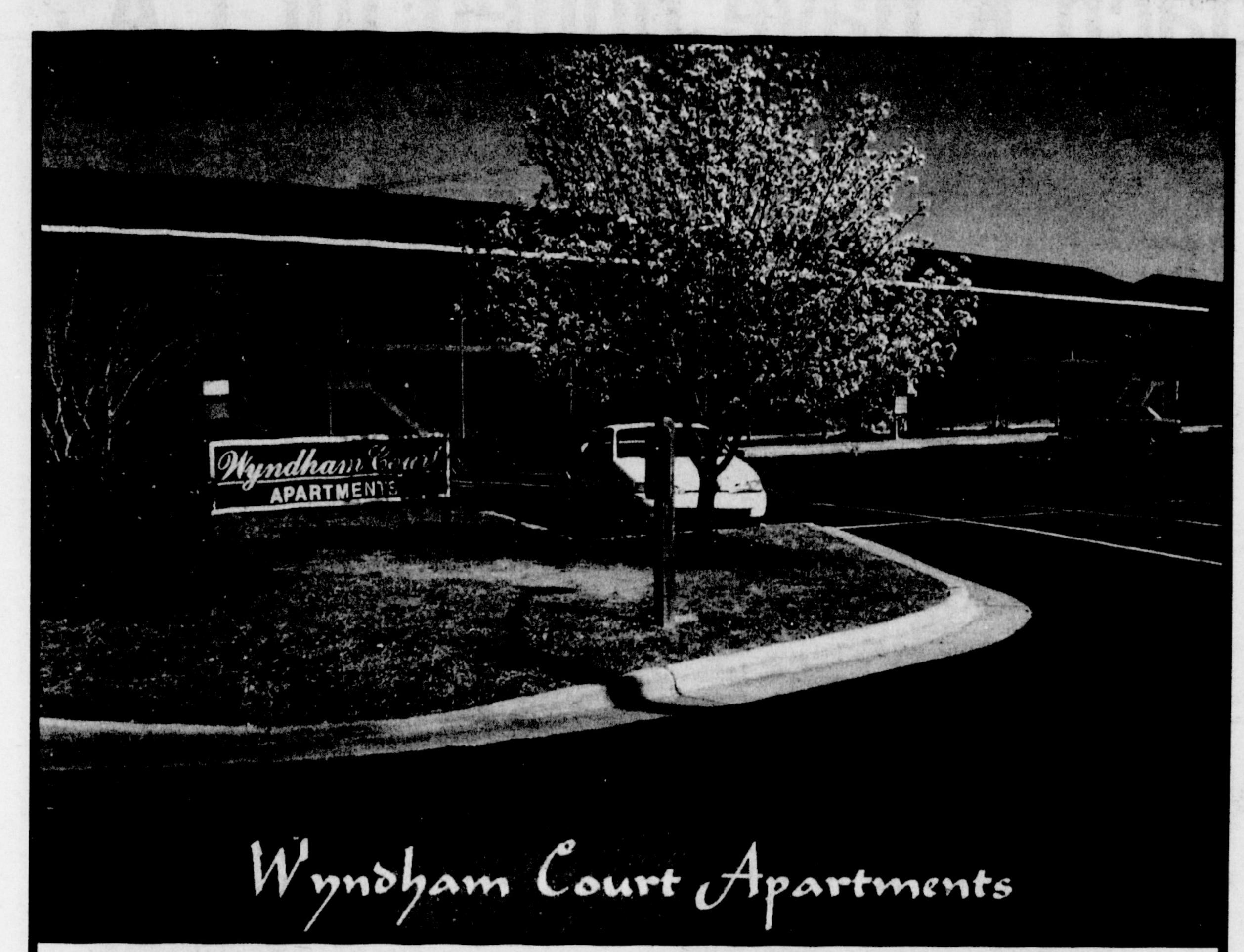
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Internet phones lighten traffic as well as wallets

HARTFORD, Conn. (KRT) to avoid traditional long-distance rates. The calls were free, but sound quality was scratchy and both parties needed computers, speakers and microphones to complete the online voice connection.

Now, roughly a decade later, phone calls using Internet technology has significantly improved and is quickly going mainstream - threatening to rattle the multibillion-dollar telephone industry and to dramatically reshape personal and business communications.

Just ask Tom Barberino Jr. of Meriden, Conn., who already has two Internet phones at home and even more at the office.

Barberino began playing with Internet-based telephony - sometimes called Voice over Internet Protocol, or VOIP for short - a couple of years ago. Not only did VOIP slash his phone bill, Barberino said, but it also gave him a raft of new features, such as detailed call logs and multiple phone numbers.

Large telecommunications companies also are getting into the VOIP market, using their own sprawling private networks to carry voice calls in efficient, Internet-like fashion.

Comcast Corp. is preparing to offer phone service to millions of households by the end of 2006, largely using VOIP. SBC Communications is offering VOIP services aimed at business customers. AT&T has been steadily expanding its VOIP service. Cox Communications has issued a statement saying VOIP is "ready for prime time."

Because VOIP telephone services piggyback on high-speed Internet links, such as DSL or cable connections, virtually anyone with broadband can get a VOIP phone. Consumers often hook up a normal telephone handset to their Internet connection by way of a small hardware adapter supplied by the VOIP provider.

Calls placed to other VOIP users stay on the Internet, or private networks using Internet technology, for much of the trip, said David Epstein, a former executive of Connecticut Telephone and now president of VOIP provider BroadVoice Inc. But calls to regular telephone customers must cross onto the regular telephone network eventually, typically via a regional gateway or portal that links them.

"We carry it as data as far as we can, then push it out to the phone system," Epstein said.

While the sound quality of VOIP calls has improved and is often comparable to that of the regular

telephone network, it can be notice-Internet phone calling started out ably worse at times. VOIP calls are as a cheap way for computer nerds occasionally subject to loss of connection, echoes and time lags caused by Internet congestion.

> For many users, these intermittent problems are well worth the cost savings that VOIP can deliver. But for some high-priority calling applications, such as critical business communications, VOIP may not yet be suitable, said Lisa Pierce, a telecommunications analyst for Forrester Research.

VOIP calling is cheaper than calls placed on the regular telephone network - partly because the Internet's system for transmitting data is more efficient and partly because the Internet isn't subject to the same fees and taxes as the phone network.

Vonage's service plans range from \$15 a month for 500 calling minutes to \$30 a month for unlimited local and long-distance calling in the United States and Canada. An unlimited calling plan offered by VOIP rival BroadVoice is even cheaper at \$19.95.

By comparison, unlimited calling plans from conventional phone providers typically cost about \$55 a month.

In addition to the voice quality, VOIP comes with various other downsides. For example, Internet phones don't work when the power goes out. Some VOIP systems don't yet provide access to 911 emergency services. Connecting VOIP phones to household extensions or phonebased services, such as home security firms, can prove problematic.

Still, total VOIP telephone lines are projected to quadruple this year to 1.2 million from fewer than 300,000 in 2003, according to New Paradigm Resource Group, a market research and consulting firm. VOIP lines will reach 4.2 million by 2007, the company estimates.

It's not just about saving money. Experts said advanced call-management services, made possible by VOIP, ultimately may prove just as attractive as low prices in luring customers to try Internet-based calling.

"Initially, it is being marketed as cheaper phone service, but that is not even the tip of the iceberg," said Jeff Kagan, an independent telecom industry analyst.

Many VOIP calling plans, for example, permit customers to choose multiple phone numbers in a choice of area codes. Small businesses can use the multiple numbers, which all ring to the same phone, to make it seem as if they have several satellite offices. Consumers can sprinkle their numbers around the country so friends and family can reach them without making a long-distance call.

SPORTS

RYAN DOWNEY

Sports Editor

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252.328.6366

Dawkins denies candidacy

Duke associate head coach Johnny

Dawkins said Monday he has not

spoken to anyone with Ohio State

about the Buckeyes' coaching vacancy.

Duke athletics director Joe Alleva said

Ohio State officials have not contacted

him seeking permission to speak

with Dawkins, who has spent seven

seasons on the Duke bench. He was

promoted to associate head coach

after the 1998-99 season.

Sports Briefs

Hall of Fame college basketball coach Mike Krzyzewski has coached for 24 illustrious seasons at Duke, but was recently offered the most prestigious head job in the NBA. Los Angeles Lakers General Manager Mitch Kupchak contacted Krzyzewski last week in hopes of luring him away from the Cameron Crazies and the Blue Devil faithful.

If it was any other position with any other NBA team, you have to believe the answer from Coach K would be a resounding no. With the glitter and glamour from the NBA's most star-studded team, Krzyzewski had to listen. In the end, Coach K would have been crazier than the Crazies that worship him to bolt for the west coast.

Sure, with the departure of Luol Deng and Chris Duhon, and the early entry from stud point guard Shaun Livingston, the Blue Devils aren't looking like a championship contender next season, but why leave something so successful for so long? Krzyzewski might have



It was all smiles at Duke when Krzyzewski announced he intended to remain as head coach.

been looking for a new challenge, but he doesn't come across as the type. He's not a Versace suit, gold ring wearing flashy coach with the blonde girlfriend half his age. Coach K is a family man with grand-

No offense to perhaps the greatest coach in the history of the game, but Coach K isn't cut out for L.A.

Coach K isn't a rookie when it comes to directing NBA superstars.

children and deep roots in Durham. He was an assistant for the best team ever assembled in 1992 for the Dream Team. He has a lifetime contract as a Dukie, with a court named after him in one of the best

see COACH K page 14

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Sharapova cracks top ten

Wimbledon champion Maria Sharapova moved into the top 10 of the WTA Tour rankings for the first time at No. 8, while two-time winner Roger Federer extended his lead atop the men's standings. Sharapova was a careerbest No. 15 before the start of the tournament, which she won by beating Serena Williams 6-1, 6-4 Saturday. The Russian never had been past the quarterfinals at a major. Williams dropped to No. 14, her lowest spot since March 1999.

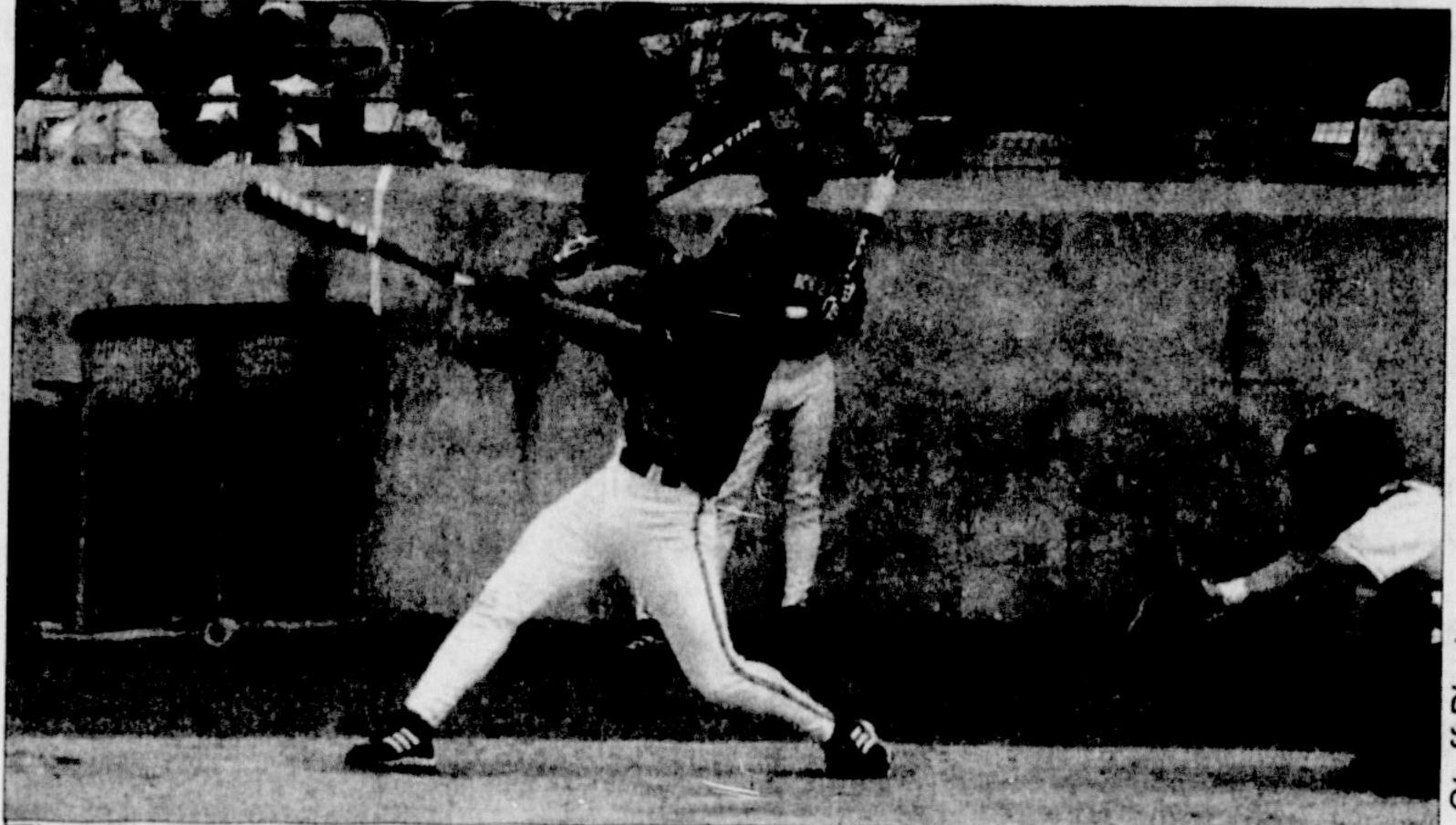
Nevin has surgery

San Diego slugger Phil Nevin had arthroscopic surgery that could sideline him for up to three weeks. Nevin was hurt breaking out of the batter's box after hitting a single in Sunday's 7-1 win over Kansas City. Doctors shaved a loose flap off the articular cartilage and smoothed fraying of his meniscus. Nevin, sidelined for a game last week after his knee locked up and was placed on the 15-day disabled list.

Senators bring in Hasek

Dominik Hasek signed with the Ottawa Senators, who hope the 39-year-old goaltender can return to the form that made him one of the NHL's greats. The Senators announced the signing Tuesday, ending weeks of speculation.

"We're goin"... Maybe next year



The Pirates should have a strong roster going into the next season.

One writer's recollection of the Super Regional

TRENT WYNNE

STAFF WRITER

"Purple ... Gold!" "Game ... Cocks!" Chants heard from both team's fans before the beginning of the ECU vs. USC Super Regional. Pirate fans inside the gate estimated anywhere from 500-700 compared to the Gamecocks' 5,000.

Listening to the radio, one may have never known which number was for which side, however, as the Pirate fans were just as loud, if not louder, than the ones in burgundy and white.

The stage was set for the players to take the field. The Pirates had their crack at offense first as they were the visiting team.

"Ping!"

Jamie Paige lead off the game with a double down the left field line, leaving the fans and myself feeling good early on. After a Billy Richardson sacrifice, Paige would fail to score in what turned out to be a microcosm of the whole series for the Pirates.

Greg Bunn started on the mound for ECU and looked great for the opening part of the game, as he retired the first eight batters he faced. Bunn would pitch through the fifth inning allowing only two runs, but the Pirate offense had

nothing to help him with.

Then, the Pirates' best friend from Kinston joined back up with them after the fifth inning, rain. Rain, rain, rain, rain and more rain.

"It has not rained this much in three months combined down here," said one of the USC fans.

Great, just our luck to bring all the rain plus about three inches with us to the Super Regional. The outfield was completely covered in water, leaving loyal Gamecocks' media members in awe.

"I have never seen the field like this before, never," said one of the officials in the press box.

The game did resume after a two and a half hour delay only to see the Pirates lose a close one 4-2. Bunn did not come back after the delay to pitch, much to the liking of some of the fans.

"That Bunn kid is the best pitcher we have faced all season. I know we are in the SEC and we see teams' best stuff week in and week out, but Bunn has the best stuff so far," said another media member from USC.

Day two brought a little better weather, but the same outcome for the Pirates.

South Carolina scored off starter Brody Taylor and reliever Scott Andrews twice early on, leaving the

see BASEBALL page 15

The Disc Golf Diaries

Will 'Cuttaz' shoot four 50s?

ROBERT LEONARD STAFF WRITER

My good buddy and fellow competitor Jason "Cuttaz" Land celebrated his birthday this weekend. He would tell you that the Zebulon Cha-Ching and Zing was a celebration. He would be the only person celebrating though as he got the win this weekend, dusting the field of advanced amateur golfers. I spent my weekend struggling at an amazing course in Zebulon and

trying to catch good ole' Cuttaz. He told me he would shoot four rounds of 50 (-7). I thought he was crazy. The last two years, the winner of this tournament has been only about -15 total, so his claim of -28 was bold. His first round at 50 not only shut me up, but also gave him the lead. My 55 (-2) was OK by my standards. I knew that I couldn't shoot the four 50s that Cuttaz predicted.

Whenever you play any sport on the individual level, you have to set goals for yourself. If you attain your goal and someone beats you, there is nothing you can do about that.

Going into the afternoon round Saturday,- I knew where I had to

see DISC page 15

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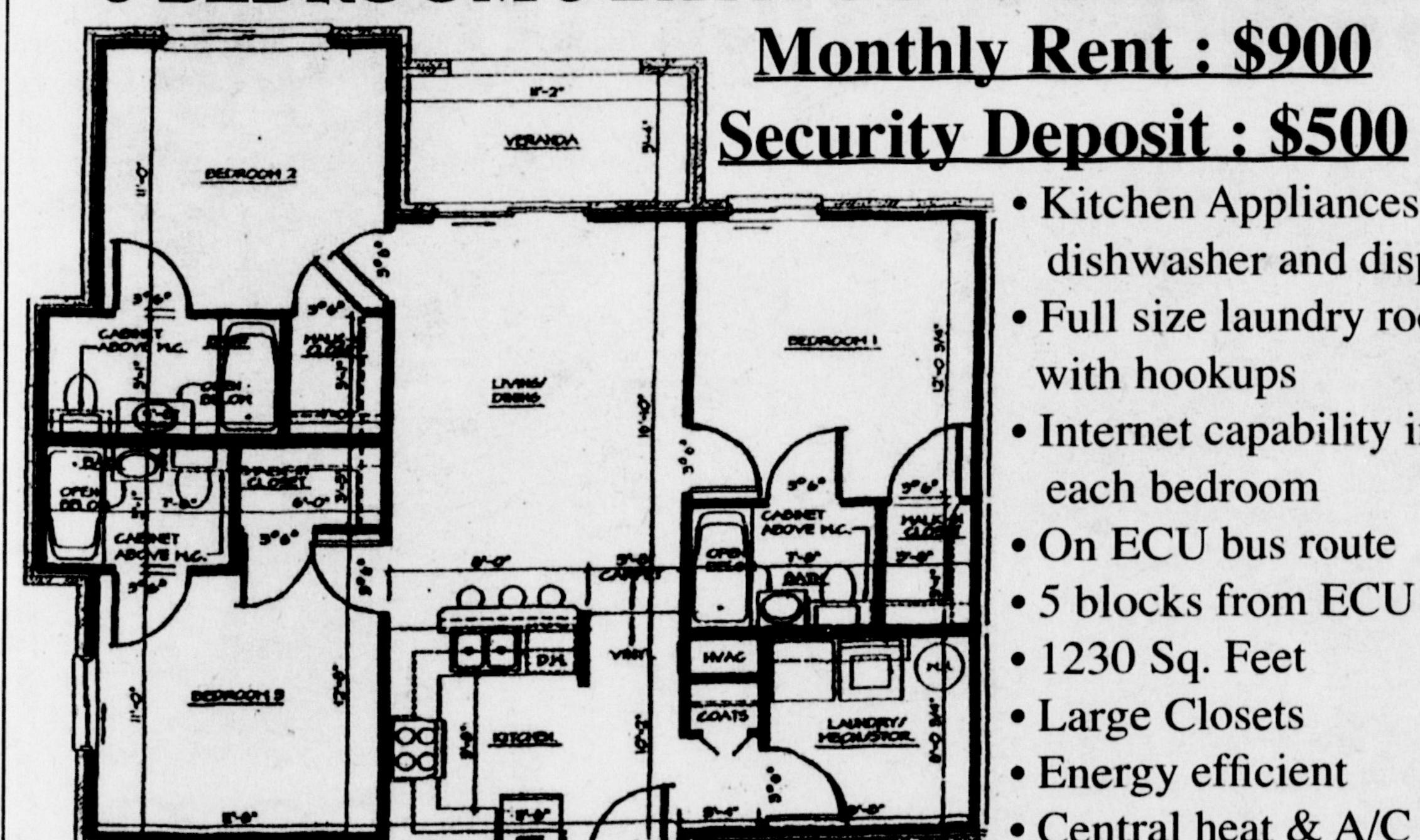
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Rockets become one of NBA's most popular teams after trade

HOUSTON (AP) — The crowd beckoned Tracy McGrady, chanting his name and cheering at a Jumbotron video showing some of his most impressive highlights.

McGrady finally obliged, taking his first steps onto the court at the Toyota Center and smiling widely & at the 2,500 fans that came to greet him last week for his introductory news conference with the Houston Rockets. The spirited welcome almost brought McGrady to tears.

"He asked me," Rockets general manager Carroll Dawson said, "if we paid those people to show up."

No, the Houston Rockets have quite simply become one of the NBA's 9 marquee teams again in the wake of their blockbuster trade with Orlando. The Rockets landed two-time scoring champ McGrady, forward Juwan Howard and guards Tyronn Lue and Reece Gaines in the deal, and sent and Seattle's Brent Barry have all Steve Francis, Cuttino Mobley and Kelvin Cato to the Magic.

McGrady now joins 7-foot-6 center Yao Ming to form an All-Star combination that could be as exciting as the Lakers' championship duo of Shaquille O'Neal and Kobe Bryant.

Plenty of NBA free agents and fans are now trying to jump aboard the Rockets' bandwagon, captivated by the prospect of being part of helping Houston undergo a basketball renaissance.

"It's going to be a hotbed for free agency because of the team they have," said Craig McKenzie, agent for Spurs' free-agent point guard Charlie Ward.

"The Rockets are high on our something really special there."

With the Lakers likely splintering apart since coming up short in the NBA Finals against Detroit, Houston immediately looks like a serious championship contender in the Western Conference next season.

The Sacramento Kings face several free-agency defections and the always-questionable health of top star Chris Webber. The San Antonio Spurs are still looking for the right mix of players to complement twotime MVP Tim Duncan. Also, the Minnesota Timberwolves have an aging backcourt tandem in Sam Cassell and Latrell Sprewell.

If the Rockets make another smart trade and land a good free agent or two, they could make a huge leap in the West next year.

"The Rockets are a terrific organization and obviously they've got a couple of great pieces," said Mark Bartelstein, agent for Lakers' freeagent point guard Derek Fisher.

"Certainly they're a team that anybody in the league would be



McGrady will provide a new look.



The Magic begin a new era in '04.

looking at seriously."

Free-agent point guards like Fisher, Minnesota's Troy Hudson expressed an interest in joining the Rockets, and Dawson is sifting through the offers and other potential trades to land someone who doesn't mind feeding the ball to Yao and McGrady for the next few years.

"We've got a lot of opportunities," said Dawson, who's also on the lookout for a backup center or power forward.

"Fortunately for us, we're a hot team right now because of this trade. Probably half the calls I've talked on were made to us. That's good. It's a little bit easier than when you have to beat the bushes."

Selling season tickets has become much easier, too. At this time last year, priority list. They seem to be building the Rockets had sold no season ticket packages even though the team was about to unveil its sparkling new arena and Yao was coming off an impressive rookie season.

> This year, however, the buzz around the trade has resulted in the sale of almost 650 season tickets.

"The trade has got us an extra big boost," said Tim McDougall, Rockets' vice-president of marketing.

"To get people to focus on basketball at all this time of year, that's pretty good. The phones were ringing all day after the trade."

All of which makes it seem that the Rockets are ready for a return to the halcyon days of Hakeem Olajuwon and Clyde Drexler.

The dynamic and marketable duo of Yao and T-Mac, an arena full of reinvigorated fans and an opportunity to seize the moment in the weakened West make the Rockets an easy sell to free agents and fans.

"I'm looking for something great happening in the city of Houston," McGrady said, "and, believe me, something great is going to happen."

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Missouri imposes penalties on basketball program

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (KRT) — Missouri self-imposed numerous sanctions against its men's basketball program, including two years probation in its response to NCAA allegations the university released Friday.

However, throughout the more than 150-page document, Missouri was adamant about three things:

1. Head Coach Quin Snyder did not intentionally commit any infractions.

2. The violations the school did commit were secondary in nature.

3. There was no evidence to suggest the school was guilty of the biggest allegation: that then associate coach Tony Harvey gave \$250 to player Ricky Clemons.

The names of all Missouri students were redacted (or blacked out) on the release that appeared on the school's Web site in the afternoon. But it is clear from previous reports that Clemons, who is no longer with the team, is the player in question when the school responded to the alleged money transfer.

"It is clear from an examination of the records of this investigation that the evidence relied upon by the Enforcement Staff to support this allegation is totally insufficient. Furthermore, the evidence to the contrary is compelling," the document read.

"The University of Missouri sub-

mits that when all of the evidence unearthed during this investigation is carefully examined, the only logical conclusion to reach is that Harvey did not give money to (Clemons) in November 2002."

The alleged transfer of money from Harvey to Clemons figures to be a key topic when Missouri officials meet with the NCAA's Committee on Infractions on Aug. 13-15.

It is the next step in a process that figures to end six to eight weeks after the meeting, when the NCAA hands down whatever sanctions it thinks are necessary.

Missouri tried to jump start that process in its response, announcing numerous self-imposed sanctions, including the freezing of Snyder's contract during the two-year probation period and a loss of a scholarship during one of those two

The two-year probation does not include restrictions on television appearances or tournament play.

Whether those sanctions will be enough remains to be seen.

This week's response, sent to the NCAA on Wednesday, made it clear that Missouri was willing to admit to numerous violations involving improper contact in person or on the phone, but that the university would fight against anything that intimated Snyder had a disregard for the rules.

"The university agrees this case demonstrates there were occasions when Head Coach Quin Snyder did not ensure an adequate environment of compliance among his staff," the document read.

"The university does not agree, however, that there is evidence that Snyder did not reinforce to his staff the importance of adhering to NCAA legislation ... The failure on occasion to ensure an environment of compliance was not due to a lack of desire to be compliant."

The wording of the allegation against Snyder already has been softened.

Noted in the MU response was a revision by the NCAA (on June 18) on the wording that the men's basketball coach "failed at all times to maintain an environment of NCAA rules compliance" to "failed to maintain an environment of NCAA rules compliance at all times."

Snyder, the only school official to comment in conjunction with the release of the NCAA response, said he isn't able to discuss the investigation.

"We're not commenting publicly," Snyder told The Star on Friday morning in a telephone interview, "as they've asked us not to.

"When it's over, we'll have a chance to. But I can't comment right now."

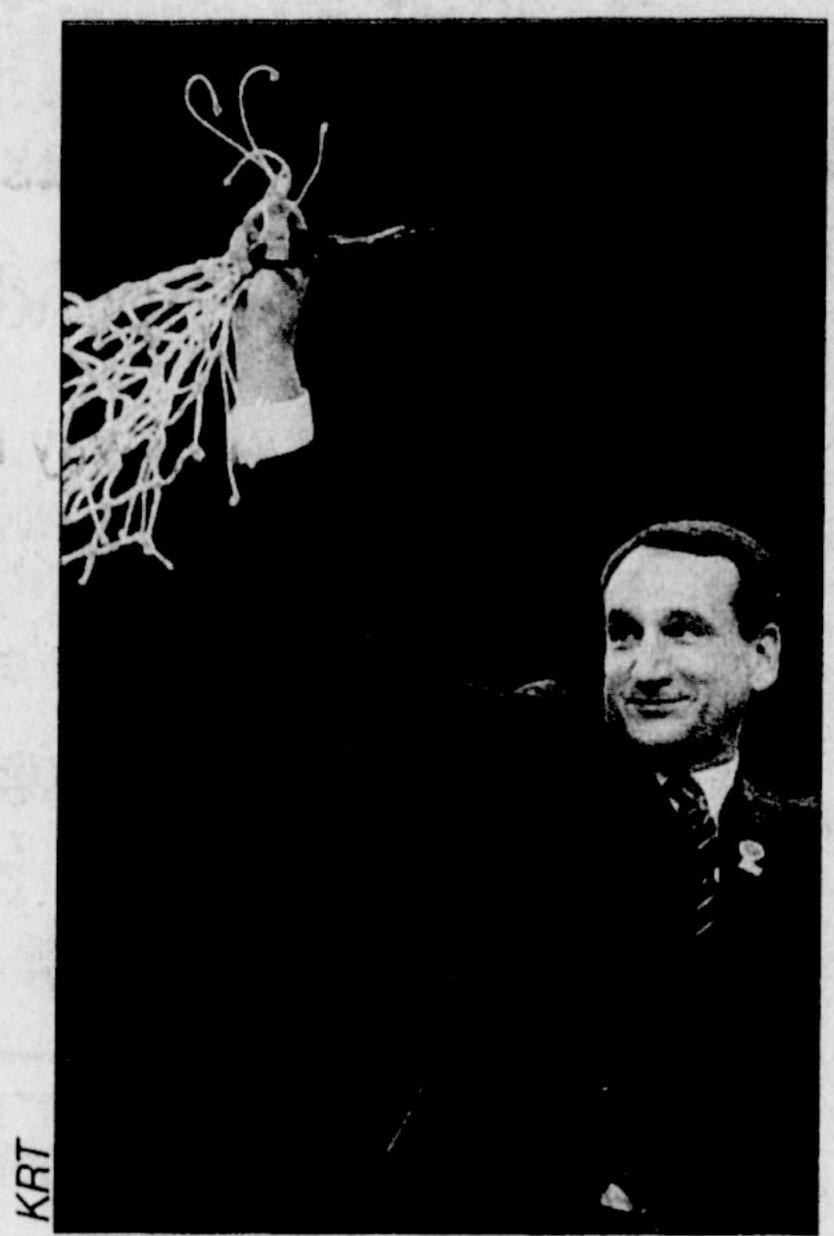
Coach K from page 12

venues in all of sports. Coach K has amassed a 621-179 record as a Blue Devil and led his teams to three NCAA titles and 10 Final Fours. He will eventually become the alltime leader in wins, but only after he ignores the calls from the City

Most college coaches aren't cut out for the NBA level. The jump is too high and older players and superstars don't respond well to criticism. Superstars making millions run the team, not the head coach or the front office. Look no further than the Lakers. Accused rapist Kobe Bryant has Phil Jackson running out of town faster than the Pistons can have their victory parade. The best big man in the game, Shaquille O'Neal, is seeking a trade.

I have to believe that Krzyzewski could have gotten the job done. If he can't, no one can. The Lakers the NBA, but Coach K doesn't need the money and fame. He's your loss. got everything he needs right in Durham. There will be no "Krzyzewskiville" outside the Staples Center, just rows filled with the Jack Nicholson's and Donald Trump's.

It was a good decision to stay at Duke, Mike Krzyzewski, you



Krzyzewski will continue at Duke.

have been an icon too long, the college basketball world isn't may have offered him the most ready for your departure and lucrative and long-term deal in thousands of blue-faced college students would have mourned

Millions of dollars could have witnessed your arrival in California, but in the end, you took the high road and this Duke fan is sure glad you did.

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

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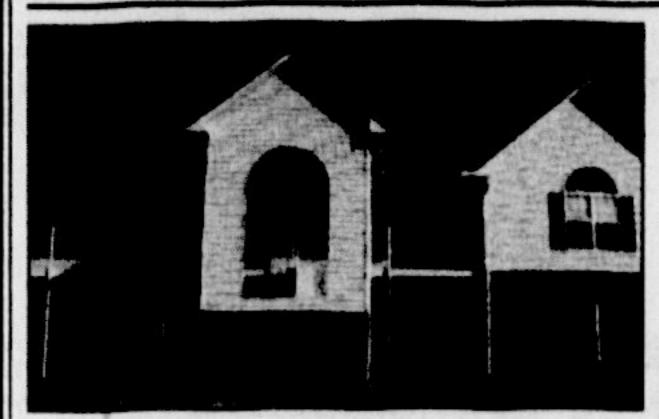
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Two-time Indy 500 winner Rodger Ward dies at 83



Rodger Ward was one of auto racing's biggest stars in the late 1950s.

INDIANAPOLIS — Two-time Indianapolis 500 champion Rodger Ward died Monday at a hospice in Anaheim, Calif., Indianapolis Motor Speedway said.

At 83, Ward was the oldest living winner of the race. He won in 1959 and 1962, during a six-year span in which he finished no worse than fourth.

Ward was second to A.J. Foyt in 1964, failed to qualify in 1965 and ter." drove for the 15th and final time in 1966, finishing 15th.

The next night at the Victory Banquet, Ward announced his retirement at 45.

"I felt like it was time," he later recalled.

"Some drivers go past their time."

Ward was born Jan. 10, 1921 in Beloit, Kan., and moved with his family to Los Angeles as a child. hot rod with parts from his father's with the speedway. junk yard business and began drag racing.

Ward, a fighter and bomber pilot in World War II, returned to Southern California after the war and began racing midgets.

He passed his rookie test at India- 75, who won the race in 1960.

napolis in 1951 and finished 27th.

He considered quitting racing four years later, however, when his front axle snapped, triggering a crash that killed his close friend and twotime defending Indy 500 champion Bill Vukovich.

"I don't know that I could really explain to you how badly I felt," Ward said.

"To me, it was an absolute disas-

Vukovich's family convinced him to continue racing.

During his career, Ward won 26 champ-car races and two U.S. Auto Club titles.

His final victory was April 24, 1966, in Trenton, N.J.

"I was pretty famous in my own territory, but when I came to Indianapolis, and the first time I ran here, I wasn't known as a driver from California. I was an Indy When he was 14, he built a Ford driver," he said in a 1999 interview

> "Indy makes the race driver. You become famous when you come here. I don't care where else you race in the world."

With Ward's death, the oldest living Indy winner is Jim Rathmann,



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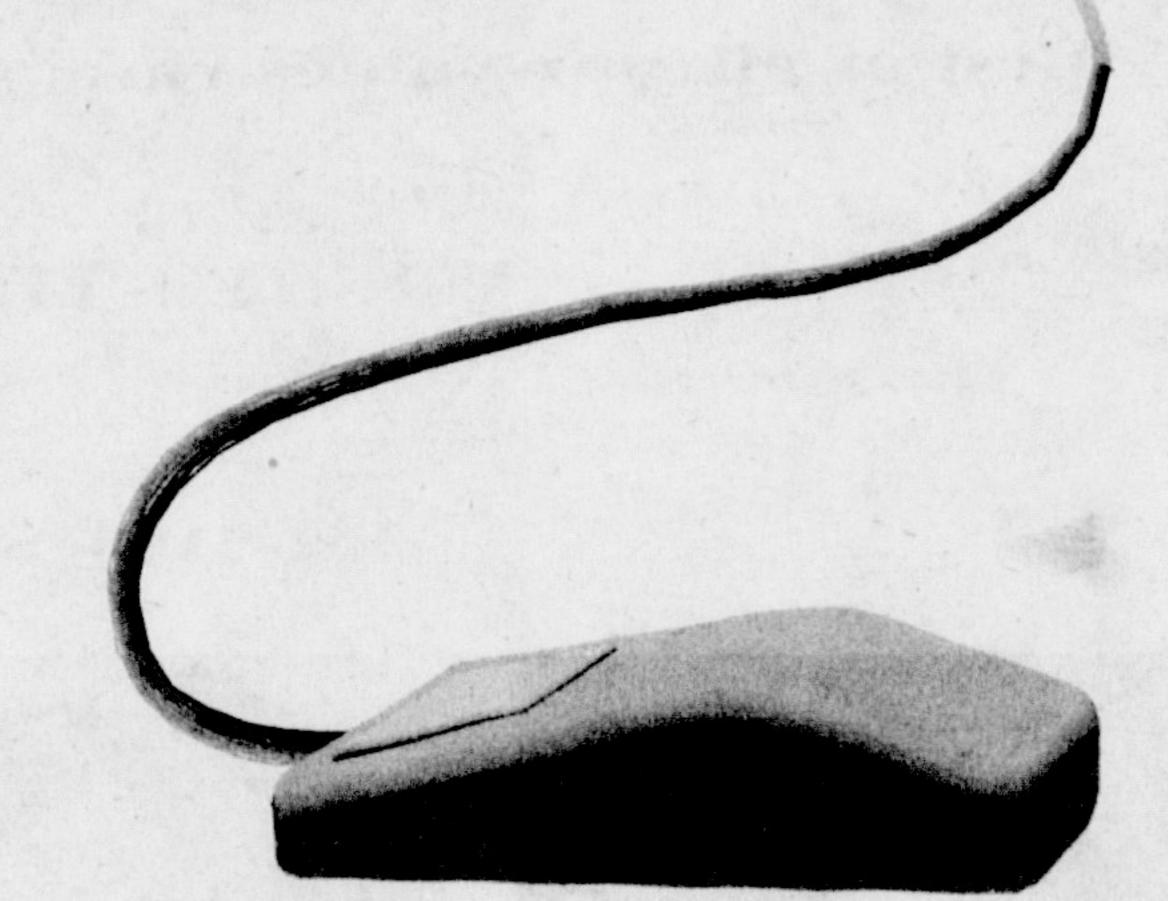
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