

## ECU says 'farewell'



Students in this semester's World Cultures course watch students from six international universities say goodbye through the Internet during their closing ceremony Tuesday.

## Medical resident featured on NBC's 'Today Show'



Even after an accident that left him handicapped, Lieberman continues to pursue his dream of becoming a doctor.

### Story brings hope to other college students

COLE WAHAB  
STAFF WRITER

Jesse Lieberman, a resident at the ECU Brody School of Medicine, who is hoping to fulfill his lifelong desire of becoming a doctor, appeared on the "Today Show" in mid November.

Lieberman was aired on the segment, "Against the Odds," a piece that shows the outstanding and amazing stories of individuals who have beaten tremendous challenges in their lives.

In February of last year, Lieberman was helping his neighbor get

back into his condo when he fell three stories from his balcony. The fall broke his neck and he was rushed to the hospital with a severe spinal cord injury. The accident left him a quadriplegic. After spending two weeks in the hospital and eight weeks in intense physical therapy, Lieberman was released and sent home on April 25, 2003.

Within three days of his discharge, he was ready to continue with school. He used his months of rest and rehabilitation to study for his medical boards. Despite his doctor's recommendations that he take some time off, Lieberman pushed ahead, saying,

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# ECU's North Recreational Complex planning underway

Facility may be one of largest in nation

A.J. WALTON  
STAFF WRITER

With a rise in club sports and intramural involvement, ECU has plans to construct one of the nation's largest collegiate intramural complexes, allowing the university to accommodate its ever-increasing student population.

The current intramural and recreation complex at Blount Field is less than 20 acres and does not adequately handle all of the athletic activities offered.

Charles Cox, the associate director of the Department of Recreational Services, said it was a necessity for ECU to build a new complex.

"The Blount Complex is undersized for our present and predicted student population ... we have roughly the same amount of fields that we had 15 years ago when ECU was smaller," said Cox.

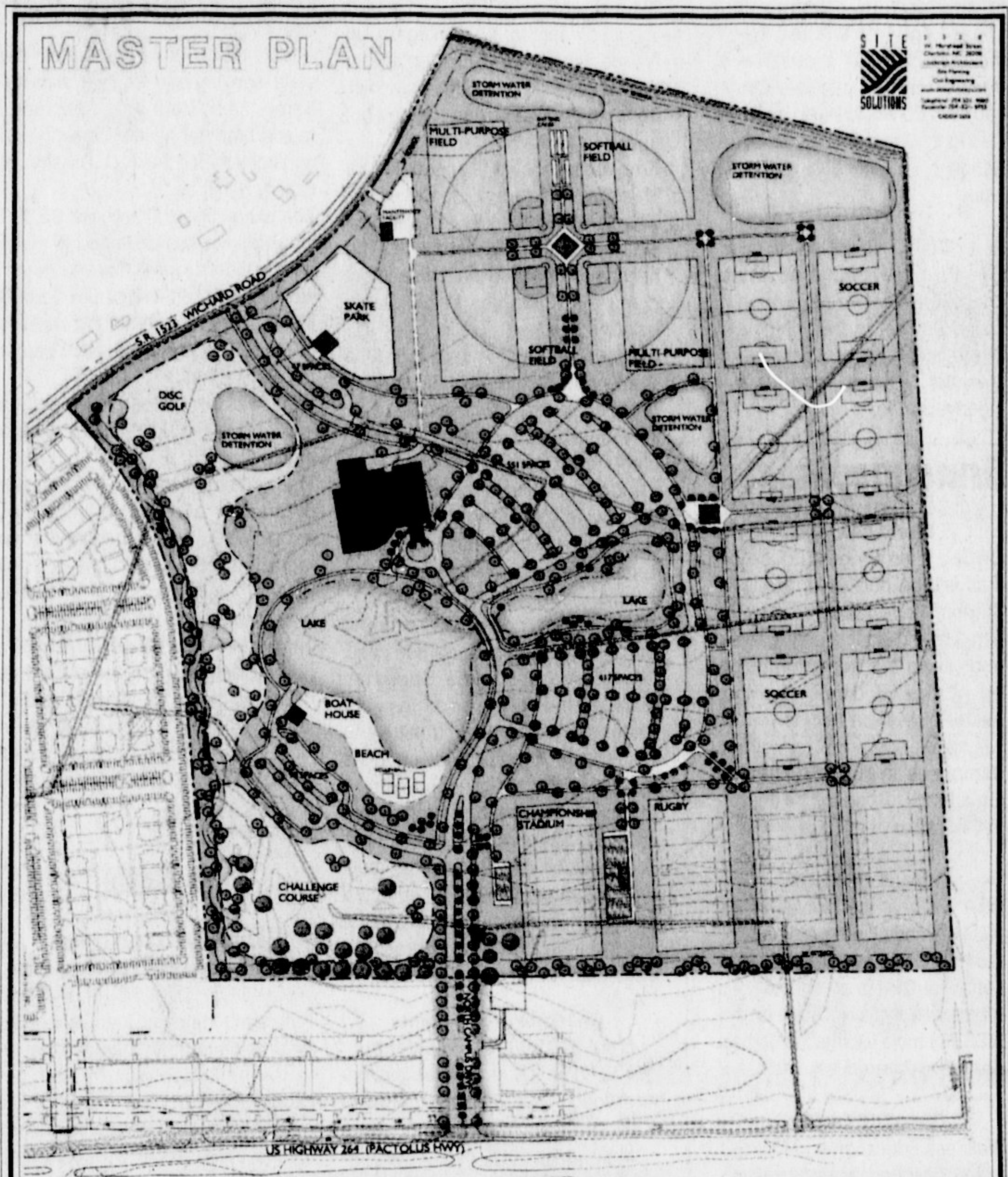
The new complex is being constructed on the corner of U.S. Highway 264, approximately 4.5 miles from the current SRC. Once opened, it is expected that the student-transit system will provide transportation for students on campus without vehicles.

"A large amount of students drive to the present property, which is two miles away ... the issue is not distance, but getting students motivated to get into the car and go participate," Cox said.

The North Recreational Complex master plan, which is conceptual pending approval by the Board of Trustees, will encompass approximately 129 acres, a substantial increase from the present facility.

The NRC will boast eight soccer fields, five batting cages and four softball, rugby and multi-purpose fields, respectively. Aside from the typical scene, the complex will offer a more diverse atmosphere for athletes of all sorts such as a skate park, a frisbee golf field, a challenge course and a walking trail.

A prime goal for Recreational Services is to construct a waterfront lake area that would promote fishing, kayaking and canoeing, along with the possibility of windsurfing and



North Recreation Campus Facility  
East Carolina University  
Greenville, North Carolina

small-craft sailing courses.

"Our vision is that the lake will open wide possibilities for aquatic water-front related activities," Cox said.

Kenneth Rountree, sophomore business major, said the NRC would be a great asset to ECU.

"As an intramural sports participant, I realize the dire need for more space ... I personally can't wait for the new complex to open," said Rountree.

The project, including a 40,000 square-foot multipurpose building, restroom facilities and parking spaces, is estimated to

cost up to \$12 million.

Funding will be available from a combination of student fees and generated funds. In an effort to keep fees as low as possible for students, Cox said the NRC will likely earn revenue through regional tournaments and city and private organizational use.

If all plans are approved by the board, the conceptual master plan will quickly enter into the pre-engineering stage.

"We anticipate breaking ground on it as early as the spring of 2006 ... having a year of

construction and actually being in play on it by the fall of 2007," Cox said.

Cox said adequate field space is the first priority and all other projects will progress as quickly as possible.

"Right now, there's not a place for a 'Joe average student' to go out and play a pick-up game of frisbee or have a picnic ... there's just not enough space and this would give us that opportunity."

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

## Greeks hold successful semester

35 organizations actively involved

JONATHAN CROCKER  
STAFF WRITER

Greek life at ECU has been extra productive this semester with an increase in recruitment and the numerous community projects, the organizations are actively engaged in.

People do not realize that when a person becomes a member of a Greek organization, it is not all about the parties and social events. Greeks give back to the community through various philanthropy events and maintain higher GPAs than the general ECU student population.

"There are a total of 35 organizations at ECU and they all contribute in one way or another," said Ion Outerbridge, director of Greek life.

"As a Greek community, 14 organizations took part in the American Heart Association's Heart Walk, which raised more than \$2,000 and money is still coming in."

Aside from the recent Heart Walk, Greek organizations have been contributing to the community throughout the entire semester and are continuing to do so throughout the remainder of the semester.

see GREEK page A2

# Office space becoming growing issue

ECU plans to renovate

ALICIA WILLIAMS  
STAFF WRITER

ECU is planning to renovate Slay Residence Hall and the Old Cafeteria Complex to create office space in order to accommodate the growing number of faculty members.

As the number of faculty members increases the amount of office space becomes limited. Some of this increase is partially due to the growing number of distance education programs, which is expected to continue to rise.

Faculty members have to share offices and they have limited privacy so they are not able to have confidential meetings with their students.

Faculty has had problems in containing their reading materi-

als in their offices due to a lack of space.

Bruce Flye, director of campus service planning said one professor's office is so small, students must sit in the hall in a chair when consulting.

Professors have indicated they want an office suitable to accommodate their students.

Another problem is faculty members from different departments having offices in various locations throughout campus. This makes it difficult for students to locate their professors.

Flye said they spent a tremendous amount of time with the deans on this issue. The renovation of the Old Cafeteria Complex would be in May 2005.

Flye said faculty members feel as though it seems inconvenient to students, they must use Slay

see OFFICE page A3

# ECU provides residence hall stay during exams

Greene, Fletcher dormitories available to commuter students

KRISTIN DAY  
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

ECU is offering commuter students temporary housing in Greene Hall and Fletcher Hall for the exam period from Dec. 8 - 16 for a small fee.

Aaron Lucier, director of

operations, said Paula Kennedy Dudley with the adult commuter program told him there was a concern for students who lived outside of Greenville and had an exam early in the morning.

"A lot of times they're taking a combination of online classes or partially online classes that might meet one day a week and then do the other meeting every week online ... all of a sudden at the end of the semester, they're facing an 8 a.m. exam in Greenville," said Lucier.



Slay Residence Hall is one of the buildings ECU will renovate into office space for faculty.

These students have other options to stay in Greenville, but Campus Living wanted to offer something more convenient.

"They could stay in a hotel, but if we have space and they're concerned about commuting to campus, why don't we work to make some of that space available?" Lucier said.

Lucier said the floor community in residence halls will not be disrupted. Each floor has a set of informal rules, such as a bathroom schedule,

that they do not want to interfere with.

"We don't want to interrupt the floor's life ... we don't just throw someone in that community for one night and say 'good luck,'" Lucier said.

"They'll be on a residence hall floor, but they won't be in the midst of the residence hall community for one night."

Instead, students who make use of this offer will stay in former staff apartments. Each apartment will be set up with

## Housing

To sign up for this offer, call Teena Thompson at 328-4663.

four single beds, a bathroom, kitchenette, refrigerator, microwave and other basic furniture like a sofa and a dresser.

There will also be free internet, cable and local phone

see EXAMS page A3

## Correction

An article in Tuesday's edition titled "Thanksgiving wishes from book signing" was based on false information provided to us in a press release. The author named, Lounis McGlohon, passed away Feb. 26, 2002. TEC regrets any confusion that the article may have caused.

In an Our View column titled "Thanksgiving wishes from the staff of TEC," a name was accidentally left out of a thank you list. TEC would like to express thanks to our ad director, Genevieve Windley, for all her help and hard work.

In an Oct. 27 sports article titled "Men's rugby clinches state championship," credit was not properly given to the contributor of the article, team member Pat Canham. We apologize for any inconvenience.

## Announcements

## World AIDS Day

On Dec. 1, the Wellness Education staff will be outside of the ECU Student Store from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. playing educational games and giving out free information on AIDS. At 7 p.m., J. L. King, author of *Men on the Down-low*, will speak about HIV on college campuses in Hendrix Theater. On-site HIV testing will be offered in the lobby.

## Memorial Quilt

SGA will host the display of the AIDS Memorial Quilt at Mendenhall Student Center until Dec. 6. The AIDS Memorial Quilt is an international memorial to those who have died of AIDS. For more information contact dailye@mail.ecu.edu.

## Free HIV Testing

Wellness Education and PICASO are sponsoring free HIV testing all day Dec. 1 at the ECU Student Health Services building. Students who come to get tested will receive free giveaways. Students will be given one hour of volunteer credit by donating canned food, paper towels, paper plates and toiletries for men and women. Call Hope McPhatter at 328-6794 or Shanae Couch at 830-1660 for more information.

## Edwards in Greenville

Senator John Edwards will be in Greenville Dec. 1. Come by the Sheppard Memorial Library at 530 Evans St. for this stop on his "Thank You Tar Heels Tour" at 11:30 a.m.

## Blood Drive

Alpha Phi Omega will hold a blood drive from 12 p.m. - 6 p.m. Dec. 1 at Mendenhall Student Center. Take some time to save a life by donating blood.

## Alcoholics Anonymous

An Alcoholics Anonymous meeting will be offered in room 14 Mendenhall Student Center from noon - 1 p.m. Wednesdays. The meeting is open to any person who feels they may have a problem with alcohol or would like to explore this issue further. Meetings will continue as long as interest and participation permits.

## Symphony Orchestra

ECU's School of Music is hosting the ECU Symphony Orchestra at the Wright Auditorium Dec. 1 at 8 p.m. Call 328-6851 for more information.

## Poetry Night

The ECU Poetry Forum will meet Dec. 1 in 214 Mendenhall Student Center at 8 p.m. Anyone who wishes to participate should bring eight to 10 copies of the poem they wish to discuss and the meetings are open to listeners as well. For more information contact, ecu.edu/org/poetryforum.

## Brody Holiday Celebration

The Academic Support and Enrichment Center at the Brody School of Medicine is hosting a multicultural holiday presentation called "Holiday Celebrations from Around the World" on Dec. 2 to enlighten students as well as faculty and staff of different celebrations during the holiday season. Tables will be set up in the dining area, 2W-40, with special displays and lunch from 12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. For more information, contact Virginia Hardy or Verna Perry at 744-2500.

## News Briefs

## Local

## Hearing scheduled for mother accused of killing infant

BREVARD, NC - A hearing will be held Thursday in the case of a Transylvania County mother who told an emergency dispatcher that she drowned her infant son so he did not "have to grow up in this mean world." Yvonne Chapman, 33, is charged with first-degree murder in the September 2003 drowning death of her only child, 6-month-old Eli. She has pleaded not guilty by reason of insanity. An insanity hearing is scheduled for Thursday in Brevard for Chapman, who is represented by attorney Will Cathey III of Hendersonville. The hearing could signal that prosecutors agree that Chapman has a viable insanity defense. Assistant district attorneys Charlie Walker and Beth Dierauf declined to comment on the pending case. In North Carolina, prosecutors must agree to an insanity hearing before a judge can consider the issue. Otherwise, the case would likely move forward to trial and jurors could consider a not guilty by reason of insanity plea. Superior Court Judge J. Marlene Hyatt will preside over the Chapman case. Should she determine Chapman is not guilty by reason of insanity, Chapman would be committed to a state-run forensic unit such as Dorothea Dix Hospital in Raleigh. Defendants who are committed are entitled to a hearing every six months. To be discharged, defendants must prove they are no longer afflicted by mental illness or are not a threat to others. If the court agrees, the defendant is ordered released.

## Charlotte group home fined \$10,000 for girl's death

CHARLOTTE, NC - State regulators have fined a Charlotte group \$10,000 - the heaviest civil penalty possible - following the death of a 12-year-old girl in September. The group home, Covenant Group Home, has since closed. The state, which initially suspended the home's license, mailed the owners a notice of license revocation late last month. By law, the owners would not be allowed to open another group home

for five years. However, they are still licensed to run two other Charlotte group homes.

Shirley Arciszewski of Buncombe County died Sept. 11 after a worker tried to restrain her. State records revealed that a 10-year-old girl witnessed the violent confrontation and later told officials it began after a dispute over a ball Shirley had been bouncing.

A fine of \$10,000 is the highest the state can impose against a group home, said Stephanie Alexander, head of mental health licensing and certification for the N.C. Division of Facility Services.

The state fined Covenant \$5,000 for violating rules designed to make sure children aren't harmed when workers restrain them, and \$5,000 for violating rules requiring workers to be trained and competent before using restraints.

"This was an incredibly egregious incident," she said, "so they have a high penalty."

The worker pulled Shirley to the floor by the hair and lay on top of her, according to the witness and state regulators. Shirley said she couldn't breathe, state records say, but the worker told her she would be fine.

The worker, Valisia Gaye Callahan, 45, had not been fully trained at the time of the incident, state officials said. No criminal charges have been filed. Mecklenburg Assistant District Attorney David Graham said his office is investigating.

## National

## California court clears way for Peterson penalty phase

REDWOOD CITY, Calif. - Scott Peterson's defense team appealed for a new jury and change of venue in the penalty phase of his high-profile murder case. Instead, the state Supreme Court cleared the way for the same jurors who convicted Peterson to determine whether he is executed for his crimes. Peterson was convicted earlier this month of murdering his pregnant wife, Laci, and the child she carried. Jurors were scheduled to begin hearing testimony Tuesday as to whether he should get life in prison or death.

A judge will issue the final sentence. Defense attorney Mark Geragos had sought relief from the high court after a lower court judge, and subsequently an appeals court, denied his motion.

In its ruling Monday, the California Supreme Court rejected the petition to select a new jury and delay the penalty phase of the trial.

Geragos claims that, among other things, the jury that found Peterson guilty is now tainted by public opinion. The appeals court denied his bid within hours of the filing.

Peterson was convicted on one count of first-degree murder in the death of his pregnant wife, Laci, and one count of second-degree murder for the killing of her child.

In his appeal for a new jury, Geragos also cited the ousting of two jurors during deliberations. Both ex-jurors remain bound by a gag order.

## Man charged for hunter slayings

HAYWARD, Wis. - A Hmong immigrant fatally shot six deer hunters who managed to shoot back once - maybe twice - after a confrontation about trespassing in the woods of northern Wisconsin, according to a criminal complaint charging him with murder.

Chai Vang, 36, was charged Monday with six counts of murder and two counts of attempted murder. He could get life in prison if convicted in the shootings, which also left two people wounded. Wisconsin does not have a death penalty.

Two of the survivors told investigators that no one in their group pointed a gun at the Minnesota truck driver before he opened fire, according to the complaint. Four victims were shot in the back.

Vang, jailed on \$2.5 million bail, faces six counts of murder and two counts of attempted murder. He was expected to make his initial court appearance Tuesday in jail instead of a nearby courthouse because of security concerns, authorities said. The gunfire broke out Nov. 21 after Vang was caught trespassing on a hunting platform on some of the victims' land.

According to the complaint, Vang said that he opened fire after the others

took a shot at him first and berated him with racial slurs. He allegedly told investigators he shot some of the victims because he thought they were going for guns or had guns, and that he did not shoot at others although he could see they were armed.

Vang also told investigators he saw one of the hunters still standing, yelled "You're not dead yet?", fired a shot and ran. He had an empty rifle when arrested several hours later.

The criminal complaint also said Vang told investigators that the victims fired at him twice - including the first shot when he was walking away after being told he was trespassing.

Two of the survivors, however, told authorities Vang fired the first shot. Funerals for two victims were held Monday.

## International

## Storm in

## Philippines kills at least 338

MANILA, Philippines - The death toll from landslides and flash floods in the eastern Philippines jumped to nearly 340 with 150 others missing Tuesday, after a second rainstorm hit a region still reeling from last week's deadly typhoon.

Social Welfare Secretary Corazon Soliman, who returned to Manila late Tuesday afternoon from an aerial survey of the area, said 306 people were killed and 150 missing in Quezon province overnight, about 40 miles east of Manila.

The Office of Civil Defense reported 19 were killed in Aurora province, eight in Rizal province, and one each in the Manila suburb of Marikina and Camarines Norte province. Other officials reported three died in Bulacan province north of Manila.

Soliman told ABS-CBN television that bad weather and roads blocked by landslides and submerged in floodwaters prevented authorities from delivering relief supplies and rescuing people on rooftops.

Helicopters had to drop food packs to those on rooftops because there was no place to land, she said.

She most of the dead were in three Quezon towns: Real, Infanta and

General Nakar. At least 150 were reported missing in Real, she said. Officials were arranging for a coast guard boat to reach the three Quezon towns facing the Pacific Ocean, from where a new typhoon was approaching.

Reuben Sindac, police intelligence chief in Quezon, quoted a colleague as saying he saw 10-20 bodies floating in the floodwaters.

He said police communications equipment and vehicles in Infanta were damaged and the whole town was underwater.

## Leading Cuban dissident writer released from prison

HAVANA - Cuba's communist government freed dissident writer Raul Rivero from prison Tuesday, the latest in a series of releases apparently aimed at cleaning up the island's human rights record. Rivero was released a day after Cuba unexpectedly freed three dissidents who had been jailed last year in a broad crackdown. International human rights groups called on Fidel Castro's government to free dozens of others still behind bars.

"Cuba's release of these political prisoners is a welcome move, but many more remain incarcerated in violation of their fundamental rights," said Jose Miguel Vivanco, Americas director at Human Rights Watch. "We call on the Cuban authorities to release all of them."

Those freed on parole Monday included economics writer Oscar Espinosa Chepe, who was hospitalized behind bars for months with a liver ailment.

"I'm feeling happy now," Espinosa Chepe told The Associated Press at his Havana home, noting that Monday was his 64th birthday. "I had been really pessimistic. I didn't think I was going to be let out."

Also freed Monday for health reasons were dissidents Marcelo Lopez and Margarito Broche. Lopez has a neurological disorder, and Broche suffered a heart attack behind bars in August. The latest releases bring to 11 the number of dissidents in the original group of 75 who have since been freed after being sentenced to prison terms ranging from six to 28 years in April 2003.

## Today from page A1

"I would rather fail trying, than not try at all."

Lieberman said many people have told him they would never have the strength or will to recover from an injury like his, but he disagrees.

"You don't really know. I've always wanted to be a doctor ... and I knew as long as my mind's working, there wasn't any question," said Lieberman.

Lieberman said some people did not think he should have gone on after he had graduated.

"There were plenty of people who said, 'Well done, congratulations,' and they thought I should've stopped," Lieberman said.

"I knew I could do it ... I've always wanted to be a doctor and this wasn't going to stop that."

Dr. Ralph Whitley, chairman of ECU's Department of Internal Medicine, said that Lieberman has overcome everything thrown at him.

"I think he has a tremendous drive to be a successful and caring physician," said Whitley.

"That was his life's goal starting in medical school. So, he got back on the horse and started riding again."

Lieberman said people who have serious injuries should think optimistically when considering their future plans.

"Just focus on what you can do instead of what you can't. You can't give up on your dreams," Lieberman said.

Lieberman is a graduate of NC State University and attended medical school at Wake Forest University. He is currently working on an internal medicine internship here at the ECU Brody School of Medicine. After completing his internship, he and his wife Michelle will move to Charlotte where he will begin his three-year rehabilitation residency. He ultimately hopes to become a doctor of physical medicine and rehabilitation.

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

## Greek from page A1

"Individual fraternities have done very well. A few of the biggest successes have been Pi Kappa Alpha's Walk to Wilmington and Delta Chi's canned food drive, which looks like it is going to do very well," said Terry Gore, Interfraternity Council President.

The Walk to Wilmington event raised more than \$11,000. According to Jaclyn Lambertsen, National Pan-Hellenic Council president, all nine of the sororities she oversees participated in the recent Heart Walk. They also began a hurricane food drive in September for the victims in Florida.

Aurriell Cople, president of the National Pan-Hellenic Council, said they won the outstanding voter registration award in the southern region conference in Georgia.

She said Omega Psi Phi fraternity was the organization that donated the third largest cash donation to the Heart Walk.

"We're doing things that our

founders were doing when they founded the organizations," said Cople.

"The greatest success was our recruitment. We had more young women sign up this year than in the past several years," said Lambertsen.

Gore said their biggest success was rush.

"We were able to execute a formal rush for the first time here at ECU, also as a collaborative effort, we have been able to put together a publication known as the CPT house, which has been a major step forward for our public relations as a Greek system," said Gore.

"This has been one of the best years for the Greek system and I feel like the executive board has done one of the best jobs I have ever seen."

Outerbridge said recruitment has been successful for Inter Fraternity Council, National Pan-Hellenic Council and National Pan-Hellenic Council.

"They all had an intake per-

centage raise in turn showing an increase in overall Greek life."

The Greek system has proven its purpose this semester.

"Our involvement in general shows how the Greek community shows a great deal of leadership here on campus," Gore said.

Melissa Weiss, junior education major and member of Zeta Tau Alpha sorority said becoming a member of a Greek organization has helped her be able to become a positive member of the community by being able to give back.

With this semester coming to a close, plans for the spring have already begun.

"We are trying to put together a major Greek leadership conference for weekends here at ECU, as well as bringing in an assistant director. We will become fully staffed, and that will help us to have an even better 2005 - 2006," Outerbridge said.

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## Suicide bomber rams U.S. convoy on Baghdad's airport road

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) - A suicide bomber detonated a car packed with explosives next to a U.S. convoy on Baghdad's dangerous airport road on Tuesday and several casualties were seen lying next to a damaged vehicle, witnesses and authorities said.

In the northern town of Beiji, a car bomb exploded near a U.S. patrol Tuesday, killing four Iraqi civilians and injuring 19 people, two of them American soldiers, the military said. Another soldier from the 1st Infantry Division was wounded when insurgents fired a rocket-propelled grenade at a tank south of Beiji.

The attacks came as the military announced that a U.S. Army soldier died from injuries suffered after a roadside bomb exploded late Monday next to his patrol north of Baghdad, bringing to 134 the number of American troops killed in Iraq this month, according to an unofficial count.

This makes November the deadliest month for the U.S. military since last April when 135 troops died. Fierce fighting in Fallujah and insurgents' counterattacks elsewhere in Iraq have fueled the high death toll this month.

Amid the violence, interim Prime Minister Ayad Allawi prepared to travel to Jordan to meet with Iraqis living outside the country to encourage them to take part in the Jan. 30 election.

In the suicide attack, police Capt. Talib al-Alawani said a bomber drove his car into a U.S. convoy on the airport road, scene of near daily attacks against U.S. military and Western targets. The U.S. command confirmed that the attack occurred but had no further details.

Several casualties were seen lying next to a damaged vehicle, according to an eyewitness who arrived on the scene before troops sealed off the stretch of road where the blast occurred. A military ambulance drove up minutes later to evacuate the casualties.

The highway, which multinational troops use daily to commute between the huge military base at the airport and Baghdad's center, is considered one of the most dangerous roads in Iraq. The British Embassy announced Monday that its staff would no longer be permitted to travel on the road.

In Beiji, a U.S. military



U.S. troops inspect the site after a car bomb exploded Tuesday next to a U.S. military convoy on Baghdad's dangerous airport highway Tuesday Nov. 30. Several casualties were seen lying next to a damaged vehicle, according to an eyewitness.

statement said the two attacks occurred about 9:10 a.m., but it did not give the condition of the wounded nor specify whether the car bomb was a suicide attack.

U.S. troops backed by tanks and helicopter gun ships launched a series of attacks on parts of Beiji earlier this month to try to root out insurgents from the town, located on the major supply route from Baghdad to the north.

On Monday, 13 Marines were wounded in a mortar south of Baghdad, the military said. No further details were released.

Meanwhile, an official with Allawi's office said the prime minister will travel Tuesday to Jordan to meet with Iraqis outside the country as part of a dialogue on the country's future.

Allawi was to appear later Tuesday before the Iraqi National Council, a government advisory

body, where he was expected to answer questions about the meeting. The official, speaking on condition of anonymity, would not identify the Iraqi groups who would take part in the meeting.

The meeting is seen as an effort to reach out to various Iraqi groups to encourage broad participation in the Jan. 30 election. Iraqi officials have insisted Allawi would not meet with terrorists, meaning insurgent leaders.

## Office from

Residence Hall building in an office with a sor is not convenient for students.

Timothy Brody, a freshman, said he did not change Slay in because it will cost him.

"They are busy with other things else. Why change new offices," said Brody.

Bryson Finney, a music education major, he does not like turning Slay in because he lives in the dorms. He does not want to campus to get to his classes. He agrees they have space, but thinks they should solve this problem in a way instead of taking it to the

## Protesters in Ukraine



A supporter of Ukraine's President Yushchenko cups his ear to listen to the crowd.

KIEV, Ukraine - Supporters of President Yushchenko gathered through the day in the Ukrainian parliament building to backslide from measures that would have the results of last year's presidential election.

Ukraine's Supreme Court resumed its probe of fraudulent results in the 21 runoff vote, and authorities in the trial east began to threaten to resist opposition leader Viktor Yushchenko is declared the winner.

Russian President Vladimir Putin, meanwhile, in Ukraine must not out foreign pressure agency reported.

He was quoted as saying German Chancellor Gerhard Schröder that "a crisis should be for a democratic way, that is, observing the law, external or internal."

The moves came after President Lech

## Exams from

service available to must bring their own Free laundry service and there are vending machines and an ice machine. Guests should bring their own linens, alarm clock and utensils.

Male commuters stay in Fletcher who have a room in C. than four men can sign up, beds will be a first-come-first-served basis.

Guests will have temporary housing must abide by all policies the residence.

There is no smoking included, but the plan began this year all semester long.

Elaine Briley, a student, said she was staying for a few days of time can use pay. She said students



1 & 2 Bed

• Central

• Free Water

• Onsite

• Onsite

• No Pets

## Office from page A1

Residence Hall because staying in an office with another professor is not convenient for their students.

Timothy Brown, an undecided freshman, said they should not change Slay into office space because it will crowd the dorms. "They are building everything else. Why can't they build new offices," said Brown.

Bryson Finney, sophomore music education major, said he does not like that they are turning Slay into office space because he lives there. He said he does not want to walk across campus to get to his classes. He agrees they need office space, but thinks they should solve this problem another way instead of taking residence

hall space.

Kamesha Johnson, junior special education major, said as long as they build more residence halls, using Slay for office space would be fine because it will be an improvement for the residents.

Although renovations will occur at Slay Residence Hall and the Old Cafeteria Complex in the near future, faculty may quickly outnumber the office space once again. There also might be a problem when Howell Science Complex is renovated. The faculty in these offices will have to relocate while renovation is underway.

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

## Protesters try to enter Ukrainian parliament



A supporter of Ukrainian opposition leader Viktor Yushchenko cups his ear to hear a broadcast of court proceedings.

KIEV, Ukraine (AP) — Opposition supporters tried to rush through the doors of the parliament building Tuesday after Ukrainian lawmakers appeared to backslide from supporting measures that would overturn the results of last week's disputed presidential election.

Ukraine's Supreme Court resumed its probe into allegedly fraudulent results from the Nov. 21 runoff vote, while regional authorities in the nation's industrial east began to retreat from threats to resist central rule if opposition leader Viktor Yushchenko is declared the winner.

Russian President Vladimir Putin, meanwhile, said the crisis in Ukraine must be solved without foreign pressure, the Interfax news agency reported.

He was quoted as telling the German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder that "an exit from the crisis should be found in a democratic way, that is, on the basis of observing the law and not under external or internal pressure."

The moves came after outgoing President Leonid Kuchma,

who did not run in the election, spoke out harshly against any steps that would divide this nation of 48 million. Ukraine's main security agency on Tuesday also opened a criminal investigation into threats to the country's territorial integrity in eastern Ukraine, according to Interfax.

In an apparent bid to fend off legal and political attacks, Donetsk Governor Anatoliy Bliznyuk said his region's referendum on self-rule wouldn't take place as planned this Sunday, stressing they were seeking "not autonomy, but to become a republic within Ukraine."

Bliznyuk added that the referendum could be scheduled later. The Kharkiv regional legislature had already retracted its threat to introduce self-rule.

Ukraine's government has been paralyzed since an announcement that Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich had won the election sent hundreds of thousands into the streets of the capital for round-the-clock protests to support Yushchenko, who claims massive fraud.

## Body matching NBC executive's son found in plane wreckage



Authorities carry a body bag from a wreckage site of a jet Monday, Nov. 29, near Montrose Regional Airport.

MONTROSE, Colo. (AP) — Investigators probing what caused a jet to crash during takeoff want to know whether it was de-iced before it went down, killing NBC sports executive Dick Ebersol's youngest son and two other people, a federal official said Tuesday. They have not ruled out other possible factors.

"We do want to look at de-icing because of the weather conditions but we're not going to just focus on one possibility," Ellen Engleman Connors, chairman of the National Transportation Safety Board, told CBS' "The Early Show."

The plane carrying Ebersol and two of his sons crashed Sunday while taking off from the airport outside this small town 185 miles southwest of Denver. A snowstorm had moved through the area and there was light snow and fog at the time of takeoff.

Digging through the charred wreckage, investigators on Monday found what is believed to be the body of 14-year-old Edward Ebersol, youngest son of Ebersol, 57, and his wife, "Kate and Allie" star Susan Saint James.

The couple's oldest son, Charles, and the plane's co-pilot remain hospitalized and are expected to recover. Saint James and the middle Ebersol son, 18-year-old Willie, were not on the flight.

The pilot, 50-year-old Luis Alberto Polanco Espallat of the Dominican Republic, and flight attendant Warren T. Richardson III, 36, of Coral Gables, Fla., were also killed. The co-pilot was in critical condition at a burn unit in Denver.

The plane's voice recorder was recovered Monday. The jet did not have a flight data recorder.

"I had two major concerns when I got there," said Arnold Scott, the NTSB's lead investigator.

"The first was to recover the sixth occupant and the second was to recover the cockpit voice recorder. We accomplished those things and now we'll get into the intricate details of

the investigation."

Connors said that among the factors to be studied are "structural failure, fuel imbalance, engine failure, was there a problem with air speed, human factors" and weather. Investigators will interview Ebersol when doctors allow it, she said.

Steve McLaughlin of MTJ Air Services, which de-ices private planes at the airport, said his company did not de-ice Ebersol's plane before it took off. Airport Manager Scott Brownlee said he did not know whether the plane had been de-iced.

Witnesses said it appeared the plane, a CL-601 Challenger, never got off the ground, and Scott said one of the survivors said it felt as if the plane was sliding off the runway during takeoff.

Doug Percival heard the crash and ran from the office of the towing company where he works. He said Charles pleaded for him to rescue his kid brother, and Dick Ebersol sat nearby on the snowy ground amid the billowing smoke, numbly rocking back and forth.

"You could tell he was in shock. Both of them had been ripped out of their shoes," Percival said.

Percival said he was going to crawl through a hole in the plane to look for survivors but turned around because of smoke. He said leaking jet fuel soon exploded "like Roman candles."

Gary Ellis was teaching Sunday school at a Baptist church near the airport when he heard a loud "poof."

"It came to a rest, and a moment or two later it exploded into a huge fireball," Ellis said. "It was burning as it came down the runway."

With light snow falling Monday morning, crews began picking through the blackened pile of twisted metal and a 6-foot-high shard of warped fuselage. Two engines lay on the ground near the tail section and cows from a nearby pen looked on as a backhoe was brought in to dig under the wreckage.

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## Exams from page A1

service available, but students must bring their own equipment. Free laundry service is included and there are vending machines, purified water machines and an ice machine in both halls. Guests should bring everything else they need including bed linens, alarm clocks, pots, pans and utensils.

Male commuter students will stay in Fletcher while the women have a room in Greene. If more than four men or four women sign up, beds will be given out on a first-come-first-serve basis.

Guests will have to complete a temporary housing contract and must abide by all the rules and policies the residents follow.

There is no small meal plan included, but the commuter meal plan began this year and works all semester long.

Elaine Briley with ECU Parking and Transportation said students staying for a short period of time can use passes for C zones. She said students without a pass

can purchase a week permit for \$10 or an overnight pass for \$4, depending on how long they stay.

Students can stay in these rooms for \$20 a night. There is not a minimum or maximum number of days allotted, but when exams end, so does the offer. A check or money order payment goes to Teena Thompson at Campus Living prior to moving in.

Lucier said he is not expecting a huge number of applicants this year, but even if only one student signs up, helping that one person will be an accomplishment. At least one student has already signed up.

"We're just happy to do it," Lucier said.

"Our department is in charge of providing services to students and if we can provide a new service that we are able to do without interfering with our primary customers which are our regular residents ... we're going to try and do it."

After this program ends, Campus Living will determine whether they should make the offer each semester.

"What we'll do is send those students afterward a postcard or something asking them for some general feedback about it or an e-mail," Lucier said.

Lucier said that in the past, they have considered offering this program to students, but never pursued it. He said the communication between adult commuter services and Campus Living is what brought this about.

They have given temporary housing to students on other occasions. When students lost apartments in a fire at Tar River Estates and were temporarily displaced, they were able to stay on campus.

Student Triray Henry lives in Swansboro, which is about 20 minutes from Jacksonville and has to commute to Greenville for classes. She said the temporary housing is a good idea.



Female commuter students can stay in Greene during exams.

"I would consider it, but then again I don't really like staying away from my husband even for a night," said Henry.

"But I do think a lot of people would go for it simply because a lot of professors won't let you switch exam days."

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

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## Our View

### Freedom of Information Act celebrates its 30th anniversary

Ever since the day this country was founded, its citizens were granted the right to question their government.

However, it wasn't until 1974 that American citizens were granted the freedom to check on what the federal government was really up to.

Last week marked the 30th anniversary of the Freedom of Information Act – an act that allows people to obtain records from federal agencies.

Congress passed the act in 1966, however no provisions were made to enforce it. There were weaknesses in the law – there were endless delays in the process and secrecies involved with Richard Nixon and the Watergate scandal.

In 1974, Congress revisited the act adding amendments to make sure the act is easily used by all.

As journalists, we happily celebrate this anniversary. The Freedom of Information Act helps us find valuable information that we can pass along to the public.

According to the National Security Archive, "documents released under federal, state and local freedom of information acts sparked more than 4,000 news stories in the last 12 months.

"The Archive posted an itemized list of 38 newsworthy news stories from the last 12 months that cited documents obtained through the Freedom of Information Act and include revelations about critical technological flaws on space shuttles, tainted meats that are not caught by the food inspection system, potential conflicts of interest between pharmaceutical companies and National Institutes of Health staff, numerous health and safety risks to the public, misuse of government funds, suspected conflicts of interest in government research and evaluation activities and the possible role of political interests in government policies and recommendations."

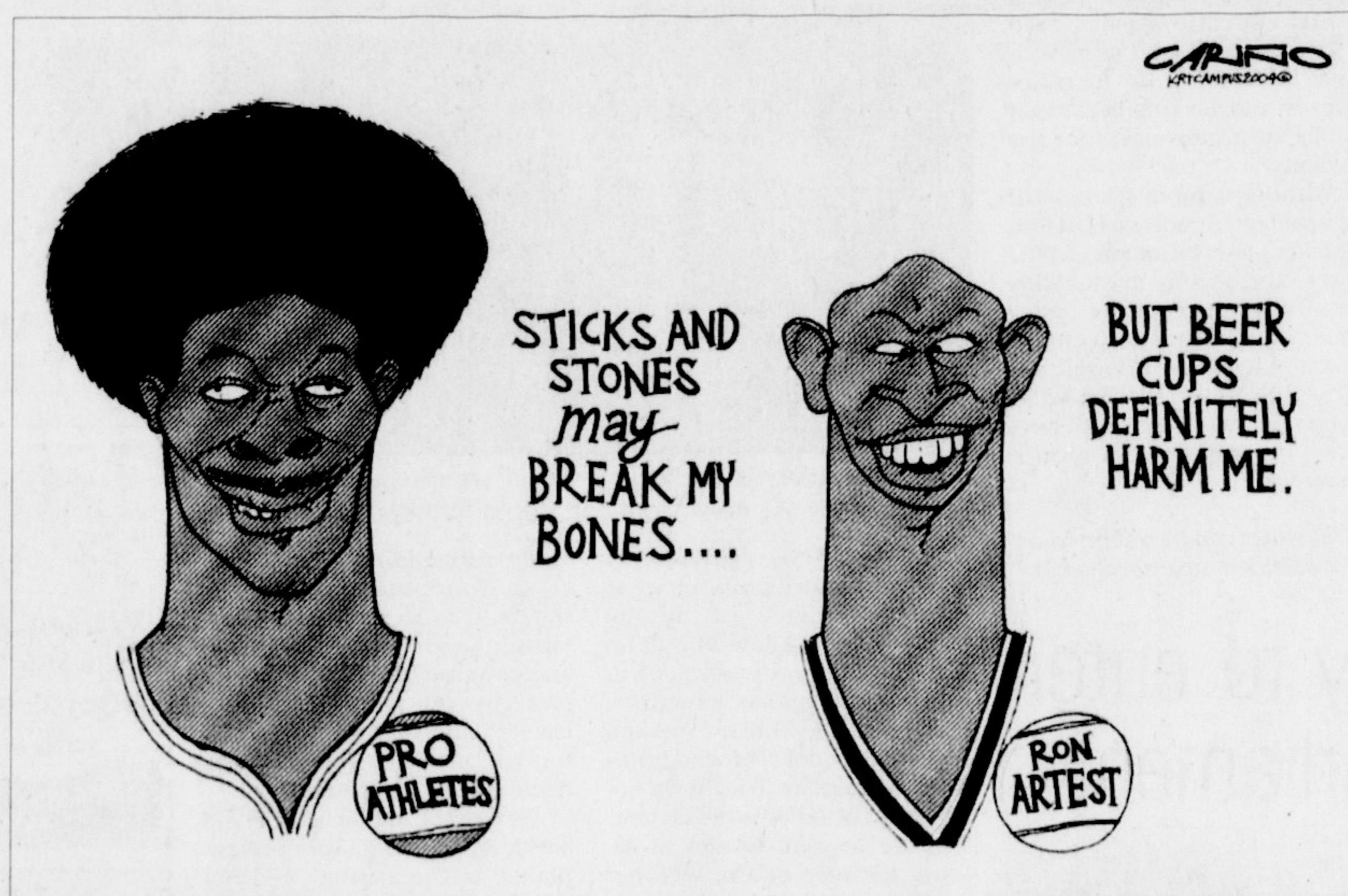
This act is one of many that helps keep U.S. citizens informed of decisions our government makes and keeps our democracy alive.

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Serving ECU since 1925, *TEC* 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. *TEC* 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 *TEC* is free, each additional copy is \$1.



## Opinion Columnist

### Just in case you misunderstood ...

Taking time out to make some clarifications

TONY MCKEE  
STAFF WRITER

Well, another week closer to the semester break or, in some cases, graduation. Either way, it's something to look forward to.

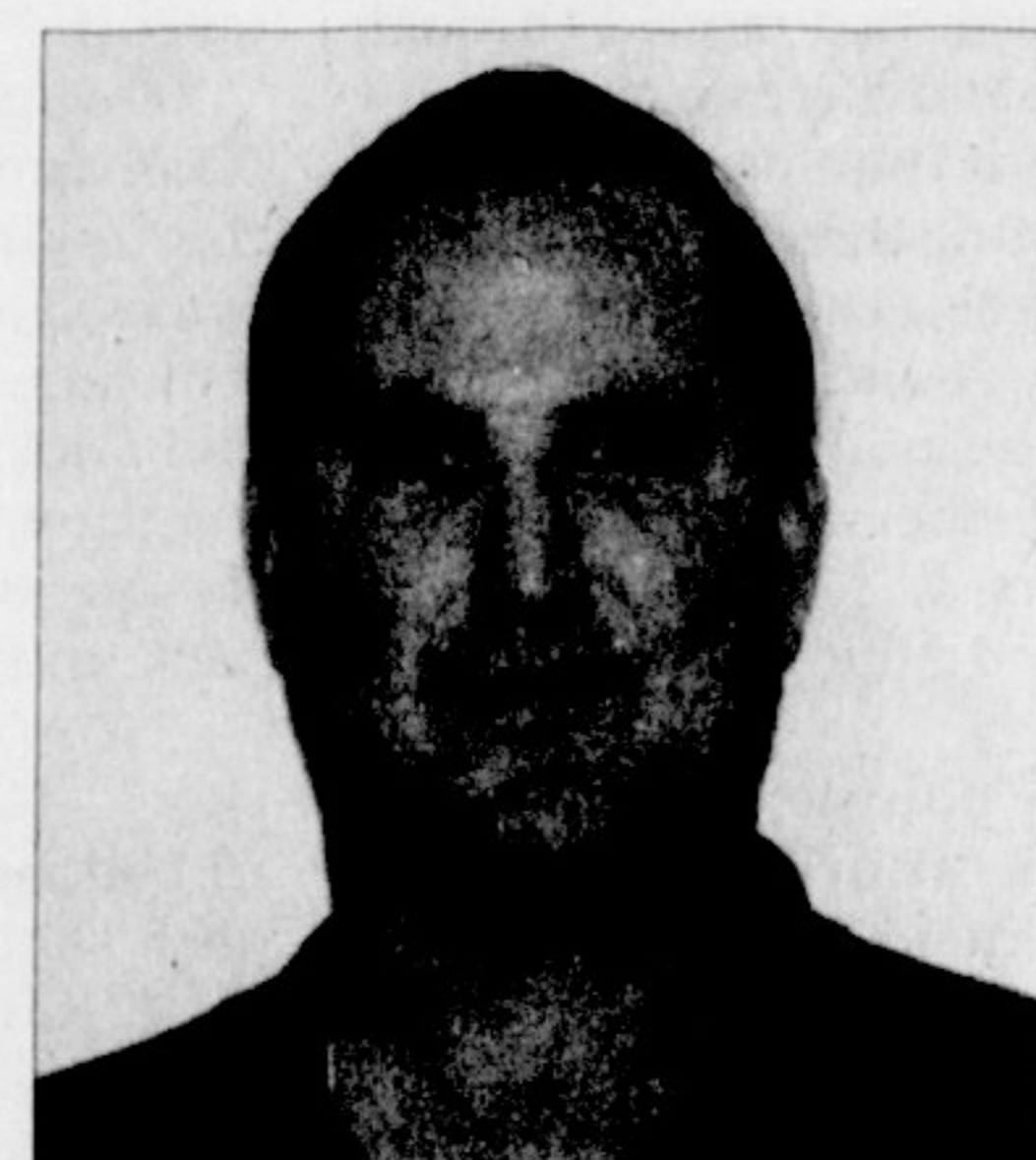
Kind of like this column, eh? Recently I have been accused of saying, doing and/or believing certain things by readers of this column that I am totally innocent of. That being the case, plus the fact that I am a little bored with being accused erroneously every week or so, I decided to take a page from Peter Kalajian's play book and clarify some of my beliefs, just to make it easier.

Ready? I believe that the Confederate Flag is a racist symbol used by people who want to relive the "good ol' days" when blacks knew (or were put in) their place and even white trash was able to have someone to look down on and feel superior to.

I believe that the Confederate Flag is a symbol of past glory used by people who say "The South is going to rise again." These are the people who refuse to acknowledge the reality that the Yankee's kicked the South's collective butt once and would do it again, for the very same reasons.

I know that the Confederate Flag is an honorable symbol, part of the heritage of this great country, a tribute to those who willingly fought and died for something they believed in and something that should never be forgotten.

The Confederate Flag is a symbol of all this and more. It can and does signify whatever people want it to. Racist symbol, wishful thinking, honorable past, whatever. None of these beliefs



are right, nor are any wrong. They just are. And I believe every one.

I believe that a mother is the best person to care for her child. Not the grandparents, not some underpaid day care employee, the mother.

I believe that abortion is murder. What started as (and was never supposed to go beyond) a contingency only in the case of pregnancy by rape or incest has now evolved to where the murder of a human child is nothing more than a decision of economics or convenience.

Next subject. I believe that one action is worth more than all the "good intentions" in the world. (That's for you, Liberals) All this nonsense about "I feel your pain" or "increasing awareness" is a load of crap that helps no one but the person making the claim.

I believe that the only way that America will remain free is if the people are allowed to keep and bear arms. Without this freedom, tyranny will rule.

Despite numerous accusations, I do not as a rule listen to Rush Limbaugh or Sean Hannity. I am either in class or studying. Some of you may want to try that once in a while.

Also despite accusations, I do not hate Democrats. Some of my best

friends are Democrats. Of course, that pool of friends is diminishing. It seems that many of them have realized the farce that is the Democrat party and have either become Republicans or Independents. As for those who remain died-in-the-wool Democrats? Well, we just hold their hands as they cross the street and wipe the spittle from their lips as they try to answer questions like "Can you tell me what the Democrats stand for?" And pray for them, of course.

I believe that we are all Americans, not "hyphen Americans." Labels such as "Asian-American," "Chinese-American," etc. are divisive and meant to highlight our differences, not our commonalities.

I believe that we are "One Nation Under God" and had better stay that way if we hope to survive.

I believe that speed limits are recommended minimums. Speed up or get out of the way.

I believe that the Medicare prescription drug benefit is a mistake. It will cost more than predicted and will grow exponentially.

I believe that the "War on Terror" and the war in Iraq are one and the same.

I believe that marriage is between one man and one woman, as God intended.

I believe that medical marijuana should be allowed, if concerns such as individual dosages, level of impairment, etc. could be resolved.

I believe schools should stay out of "character education." That is the parent's job.

I believe you should give someone a "hand up," not a "hand out."

I believe the government should stay out of my wallet and let me keep what I earn to care for my family. I could go on but I'm running out of space. I'll leave you with this:

I believe we are all God's children and should be treated as such.

## Pirate Rant

Since it's close to finals, shouldn't have most campus facilities been open to give an opportunity to students who stayed in Greenville over the break to get some work done?

The North Carolina National Guard unit in Iraq is coming home in January. I personally know six ECU students in that unit and it will be great to get them back where they belong – home, and back at ECU!

Our football coach got fired mighty quick for doing the best he could with what he had, while there are teachers here who couldn't teach abstinence to nuns. Why can't we fire some of these poor teachers that fast?

A word of warning to all you faculty and staff – you better do some great work because you might be in line to get fired next.

I just wanted to extend my best wishes to ECU's John Thompson. Thanks so much for all you have done here at ECU. You will be deeply missed. If ECU would just give someone more than two years to get a winning team, then we might have one. You cannot expect to just start winning with a new coaching staff. It takes time. And I really think that John Thompson was the one for us.

To refer to Thanksgiving as "Turkey Day" is just plain disrespectful. It is a holiday shared with family and friends to both recognize and appreciate the foundation of our great country and to give thanks for the often overlooked gifts in our life. It is not a celebration of the bird we slaughter, stuff, then eat and it should not be referred to as such.

I have to say that I am very proud of the way ECU's fans handled themselves at the football game on Saturday. Our football team may not have had the best season, but dang it our fans were at least professional and classy. That says more than any scoreboard. One more thing, the State fans booed the national anthem, and at the end of the song yelled Home of the Wolfpack. I'm sorry, but this is not only rude, but it's disrespectful to our nation. Thank you Pirates for representing our school well.

*Editor's Note: The Pirate Rant is an anonymous way for students and staff in the ECU community to voice their opinions. Submissions can be submitted anonymously online at www.theeastcarolinian.com, or e-mailed to editor@theeastcarolinian.com. The editor reserves the right to edit opinions for content and brevity.*



"I met Naomi three months ago and it was like I'd been hit by a lightning bolt. We have a real special, special relationship. Naomi is a beautiful woman and I like her a lot."

- Singer Usher on his new girlfriend, model Naomi Campbell.

## In My Opinion

### Drop in value of dollar has leaders looking cautiously

(KRT) — When President Bush met the leaders of 20 Asian and Pacific nations last week, he wanted to talk about North Korea and Iran. But those nations had another security crisis on their minds – the fall of the dollar.

The dollar is now down to nine-year lows and there are jitters about a financial crisis. If foreign lenders lose confidence, they could trigger a freefall collapse of the dollar. As the cost of imports rise, inflation could jump. And interest rates for banks and homebuyers would soar as investors demand a higher return for their greater risk.

That nightmarish scenario is probably overdrawn. But the dollar's drop reflects the belief that the American economy is not healthy.

The signs of illness are two huge and growing imbalances – the federal budget deficit and the current account deficit, the shortfall between what America takes in from the world through trade and investment and what it spends. In 1990 the global balance stood at zero. Now the U.S. is \$665 billion in the hole.

President Bush made soothing noises at the Asian Pacific economic summit about the commitment to a "strong dollar." But investors correctly read the signals that the actual policy is to let markets drive the value of the dollar down in an orderly way.

The administration sees dollar devaluation as a way to correct a global imbalance. It will make American exports cheaper and more competitive and imports more expensive for Ameri-

cans consumers. They are confident the U.S. remains an attractive place for the world to park its money.

Those currencies that trade freely – the Euro, Canadian dollar, British pound and lately the Japanese yen – have gone up rapidly in value against the dollar in the last few weeks.

The one major trading partner that has escaped so far is China, whose currency is fixed to the value of the dollar. The Chinese want to keep their exports cheap but American pressure may force a small revaluation of its currency.

Our trading partners are unhappy about the dollar's slide. But this is needed correction.

The danger is the fall will encourage countries to reduce their dollar holdings, shifting to Euros, gold or Japanese stocks whose value has been rising.

The problem for the United States is that those dollars are now financing our huge budget deficit, which will hit \$450 billion this year. The administration has been unwilling to ask Americans to pay for the war on terror and the war in Iraq.

The twin deficits are driven in part by the growing difference between what Americans spend and what they earn. American savings – both household, corporate and, of course, government savings – have deteriorated greatly in the last five years.

Instead we borrow money abroad. The dollar holdings of China, Japan, India and other Asian countries have leapt up from about \$1.1 trillion in 2001 to about \$1.8 trillion in 2003. And

much of that is invested in American Treasury bonds and stocks.

The Chinese, emboldened by the reality that we depend on their dollars, now happily lecture us on our profligate ways.

"The savings rate in China is more than 40 percent," the deputy head of the Chinese central bank recently told the Financial Times. "In the U.S. it is less than 2 percent. So the problem is that they spend too much and save too little."

It is true that Americans consume more than they produce. But we can keep doing it, up to a point, because the folks we import from – mostly but not entirely in Asia – are happy to produce more than they consume and to lend us money to buy their stuff.

"We are stuck with each other – they are the lenders of last resort and we are the consumers of last resort," says Robert Madsen, senior fellow at MIT's Center for International Studies and an expert on Asian economies. "If they stopped lending we would have a lot of trouble. If we stopped consuming, they would go into recession."

A devaluation of the dollar should encourage Chinese, Japanese and others to spend more on American goods – as well as creating an incentive for Americans to buy fewer imports. Hopefully the administration will succeed in managing an orderly devaluation and avoid a freefall.

Ultimately America needs to reduce a dangerous dependency on foreign lenders.

## Announcements

**Collateral:**  
Wed. 9:30 p.m.  
Thurs. 7 p.m.  
Fri. 9:30 p.m.  
Sat. 7 p.m.  
Sun. 3 p.m.

**Open Water:**  
Wed. 7 p.m.  
Thurs. 9:30 p.m.  
Fri. 7 p.m.  
Sat. 9:30 p.m.  
Sun. 7 p.m.

## Top 5's

**Top 5 Movies:**  
1. National Treasure  
2. The Incredibles  
3. Christmas  
4. The Polar Express  
5. SpongeBob

**Top 5 TV Shows:**  
1. CSI  
2. Desperate Housewives  
3. Without a Trace  
4. Survivor  
5. Extreme Makeover

**Top 5 DVDs:**  
1. Shrek 2  
2. The Day After Tomorrow  
3. White Christmas  
4. Garfield  
5. Van Helsing

**Top 5 CDs:**  
1. Enimem  
2. Shania Twain  
3. Toby Keith  
4. Britney Spears  
5. Now That's What I Call Music

**Top 5 Books:**  
1. London Bridge  
2. The Da Vinci Code  
3. The Five  
4. I Am Charley  
5. The Godfather

## Horoscopes

**Aries:** You're marvelous. Your part is over. You'll make time for yourself.

**Taurus:** There's a lot around the house. You know. The big one. It's done. Now it's controversy.

**Gemini:** You have questions. You're something about you might. The however, so you into the inquiry.

**Cancer:** Work for the next. You'll earn a lovely. You may have to not ignored.

**Leo:** You're attractive. This as it gets. This for commun-

**Virgo:** Dig your attic and your home. You're entertaining. enough excu-

**Libra:** You're friends, and v them now and as well as th good to be p

**Scorpio:** You're from higher-u charming.

**Sagittarius:** nuisance, but Conditions are out what's act and how muc out. It's good

**Capricorn:** C partner before so you'll be a for the leas can win, with a friend.

**Aquarius:** If you're arguing with person, or ma them, you'll le facts.

**Pisces:** The v rewarding yet the effort.

## Announcements:

### Mendenhall Movie:

**Collateral:**  
Wed. 9:30 p.m.  
Thurs. 7 p.m.  
Fri. 9:30 p.m.  
Sat. 7 p.m., Midnight  
Sun. 3 p.m.

**Open Water:**  
Wed. 7 p.m.  
Thurs. 9:30 p.m.  
Fri. 7 p.m., Midnight  
Sat. 9:30 p.m.  
Sun. 7 p.m.

## Top 5's

### Top 5 Movies:

1. National Treasure
2. The Incredibles
3. Christmas with The Kranks
4. The Polar Express
5. Sponge Bob SquarePants

### Top 5 TV Shows:

1. CSI
2. Desperate Housewives
3. Without A Trace
4. Survivor: Vanuatu
5. Extreme Makeover: Home Edition

### Top 5 DVDs:

1. Shrek 2
2. The Day After Tomorrow
3. White Chicks
4. Garfield The Movie
5. Van Helsing

### Top 5 CDs:

1. Eninem
2. Shania Twain
3. Toby Keith
4. Britney Spears
5. Now That's What I Call Music

### Top 5 Books:

1. London Bridges
2. The Da Vinci Code
3. The Five People You Meet In Heaven
4. I Am Charlotte Simmons
5. The Godfather Returns

## Horoscopes

**Aries:** You should be in a marvelous mood. The difficult part is over by now, and you can make time for romance. Do that, definitely.

**Taurus:** There's lots to be done around the house, as you already know. The best method to get it done: now. That's where the controversy arises. Be patient.

**Gemini:** You're always asking questions. You want to know something about everything, and you might. This project takes work, however, so you'd better get back into the inquiry.

**Cancer:** Work smart and creatively for the next couple of days, and earn a lovely bonus. Romance may have to be postponed, but not ignored. Stay in touch.

**Leo:** You're attracted, and attractive. That's about as good as it gets. This is also a lovely time for communication.

**Virgo:** Dig your treasures out of the attic and use them to brighten your home. You'll be doing some entertaining, and that's a good enough excuse.

**Libra:** You learn a lot from your friends, and vice versa. Meet with them now and get the latest facts, as well as the latest gossip. It's good to be prepared.

**Scorpio:** You're drawing attention from higher-ups, so be your most charming.

**Sagittarius:** Money can be a nuisance, but it is nice to have. Conditions are good for figuring out what's actually in your account, and how much you'll have to pay out. It's good to know.

**Capricorn:** Confer with a wise partner before you go shopping, so you'll be able to get the most for the least. It's a game you can win, with a little help from a friend.

**Aquarius:** If you can keep from arguing with a very stubborn person, or maybe two or three of them, you'll learn some valuable facts.

**Pisces:** The work may not seem rewarding yet, but don't abandon the effort.



(KRT) — From coconut radios to pesky cosmonauts to coconut phones to a surprising victory at the Cannes Film Festival, very little that happened on "Gilligan's Island" was ever mistaken for reality.

Leave it to "The Bachelor" mad scientist Mike Fleiss to turn the beloved Sherwood Schwartz chestnut into deliriously exploitative unscripted television. Featuring real people cast for their resemblance to popular culture's daffiest group of castaways, "The Real Gilligan's Island" premieres Tuesday on TBS.

Searching for the perfect lovely lady to stand in for glamorous actress Ginger, Fleiss turned to Rachel Hunter. Even though your typical swimsuit-modeling legend has better things to do than spend three weeks on a deserted island playing an

elimination game for the kinds of prizes she could just buy on a whim, Hunter worked with Fleiss on ABC's beauty show debacle "Are You Hot?" and jumped at the chance to collaborate again.

"I love working with Mike," Hunter gushes. "If there's anyone you're going to work with in reality, it's Mike. He pushes the envelope and knows reality inside and out. I've always just enjoyed his projects."

It didn't hurt that Hunter vividly remembers rushing home in the afternoons to watch episodes

of "Gilligan's Island," which played regularly on one of the two stations her childhood home in New Zealand received.

"I just loved Gilligan, he was such a goofbag," she laughs. "I loved how even though it was deserted, all these colorful characters were always on the show — the crazy millionaires, the aloofness of Ginger always wafting about in her evening gown, Mary Ann just running around so happy about everything and cooking a pie and completely out of her mind. She

should have been on Prozac the entire time. And the Professor. He was so asexual, wasn't he?"

Although Hunter insists, as reality show contestants always seem to do, she would relive the "Gilligan's" experience again in a heartbeat, she had many reservations about the limited food supply made available to the castaways as they competed in challenges based on incidents from the series.

"We were given certain things, but I couldn't eat," Hunter says. "It was like eating cardboard. You'll probably see a more voluptuous Rachel at the beginning and a more scrawny Rachel at the end."

"The Real Gilligan's Island" begins with two groups of cast-

see GILLIGAN page A7

## 'Alexander' one strange experience for audience

Movie equal parts history, adventure

JASON A. FREEMAN  
STAFF WRITER

The ride from Macedonia to the Hindu Kush was not quite as hard as I thought it would be. At least that was my sentiment by the time the crucial "Battle for India" took place in *Alexander*, an Oliver Stone film produced by Warner Bros. pictures and Intermedia films. However, I am pretty sure the characters in the film and real members of Alexander's expedition would beg to differ.

The movie is an action packed romp from the northern parts of Greece, through Central Asia and to the southern tip of India. *Alexander* brings historical epic together with Greek myth dashed with a Shakespearean flavor. The characters are introspective and real, but are closer to Hamlet and Macbeth than any actual historical figure.

The movie starts with a testimonial by Alexander's lifelong friend Ptolemy, who history buffs (such as myself) will recognize as the first Greek ruler of Egypt. Ptolemy, played by Sir Anthony Hopkins, gives an overtly positive impression of *Alexander* to help us start our journey to where myth meets history.

Angelina Jolie plays Olympias, the mother of Alexander, who is both loving and sympathetic. Val Kilmer plays King Phillip, the boorish and incorrigible father of Alexander. This is where the film first surprises me ... I don't usually like any of these actors, or Oliver Stone for that matter. I expected a Hollywood sugarcoating of the story topped off with a huge helping of political correctness. What I found was a good story with deep characters and only a smattering of liberal Hollywood values.

The next surprise came from the dynamic portrayal of the powerful yet flawed Alexander by world-renowned Hollywood bad boy Colin Farrell. I'll go ahead and admit I cheated a little bit. I saw some of Farrell's preparation on the Discovery Channel special, "Becoming Alexander." Farrell worked hard to become Alexander and the effort paid off with a compelling look at a man few people know anything about ... historians included.

If there is a third surprise, it is the attention to historical detail shown in this movie. While there was clearly artistic license taken with key parts of the story such as Alexander's riveting speech to Hephaestion (played by Jared Leto, best known for his time

see ALEXANDER page A6



Continued photo

# Frosty the Snowman

Frost for the holidays

JOANNA WALDHOUR  
STAFF WRITER

*Frosty the Snowman* is a holiday cartoon classic that represents the kid in all of us. Even though people may have seen this enchanting, lovely story many times, it still touches the hearts of viewers. Viewers still become excited to watch the movie – it never gets tiring. For many, *Frosty the Snowman* signals the beginning of the Christmas holiday season. No matter what holiday people celebrate, whether it is Kwanzaa, Hanukkah or Christmas, everyone can still relate to *Frosty the Snowman*. Many families have their own

traditions when it comes to watching the movie, such as sipping hot cocoa together.

This is a Christmas tale that is based on the song of the same name as the title. The narrator Jimmy Durante tells viewers the story of a snowman that has been brought to life by a magical top hat.

Because the teacher made her students come to class on Christmas Eve, she decides to make it up by having a magician named Professor Hinkle (Billy De Wolfe) perform in front of the class. He is a really bad magician. At one point, he becomes frustrated trying to pull a rabbit out of the top hat, but it does not work and he throws the top hat away. While the students are outside building a snowman, which they decide to name Frosty, a

strong wind blows and the top hat moves on top of Frosty's head and Frosty comes to life. Silly Professor Hinkle then changes his mind and wants the top hat back because he could make a fortune with the top hat's new sense of magic. The students and Karen, the leader of the group, want to save Frosty. Karen comes up with the plan to travel by train to the North Pole, where it is always cold and far away – that way, Frosty will not melt, nor will he get caught. Santa Clause appears briefly.

This is a story of life, death and celebration of living life to its fullest. A fun movie. Very cute, bittersweet and full of hope.

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



Students' Web site gives people ways to buy new and classic sneakers online.

## Just kick it, innovative new store

New, rare sneakers on student Web site

KYLE BILLINGS  
STAFF WRITER

Walking through Wright Place on any given weekday, one can see the diversity and range of people to whom ECU offers its education. People from different countries, backgrounds and upbringings can be found, along with varying tastes and preferences. However, there is one focal point where everyone on campus seems to find common ground: interest in shoes and fashion. Those highly interested in the collection of shoe products can now find easy access through fellow ECU student Will

Hardison's Web site kickonline.com. While not everyone may be the most devout shoe collector, no one would complain about a neatly wrapped pair of brand new kicks this holiday. Junior, marketing major Will Hardison started a company that fits the interest of potential shoe buyers. His site evolved from "The No Name Nike Page" to "Will's Nike Page" to the currently used "Shoe Center." The site offers purchasing opportunities for rare and hard to find Nikes and Air Jordans. The site also serves as an information database where people all over the world can find out the latest news on their favorite sneaker.

Hardison discusses the development of the Shoe Center: "The idea developed when I found out that people, most likely those in

love with shoes, would pay big money for rare sneakers. If you can get a pair of Air Jordans six months before they come out to the public, people will pay about eight times the amount they will pay in the store just to get them early. But why not stop there? People also pay a ridiculous amount of money for what we call 'player samples.' These are shoes that Nike makes for their NFL/NBA/MLB etc. superstars. Take Warren Sapp for example, Nike made Warren a pair of Nike Air Jordan's in all black with number 99 stitched in the rear and SAPP stitched on the tongue in red. Nike only made a handful of these and just about all of them went to Warren. I was

see SHOES page A7

## Alexander from page A5



on "My So Called Life" as Claire Danes' object of affection and *Fight Club*, the movie can be followed by someone who is already familiar with the myth and legend surrounding Alexander portrayed in many college history books (no offense to all the good high school history teachers out there, but I didn't learn a lot about Alexander until college.) The conflict between Leto's character and Rosario Dawson's character, Queen Roxane, adds a bit of Hollywood intrigue to the story. The open homosexuality of Alexander is shown but held back a little. The interactions between the Greek soldiers and their male lovers would probably offend many conservative viewers. However, there is not enough interaction to be declared a "gay movie." In some ways the relationship is

scandalized, in other ways supported. Aristotle explains it in a way that would be called homophobic by many but moderate to some. Alexander's declaration to his angry queen that "There are many kinds of love" seems to be the most declarative moment on the subject in the film.

Overall, the movie was well done. The "Battle of Gaugamela" was the pivotal part of the film where the character of Alexander was tested both literally and figuratively. The final battle in India, the Battle of Hydaspes, was also an interesting battle that led to the fourth and final surprise.

The symbolism took over and instantly Alexander became Prometheus, the Titan who gave fire to man. Weird colors and visions of a dead father transformed Farrell's Alexander from epic hero into raving lunatic.

Even Sir Anthony Hopkins' character of Ptolemy changes dramatically from hero to heel at the end, in an Oliver Stone twist (I told you I didn't like that guy.) Not giving anything else away, all I can say is that *Alexander* is more of a myth in the movie than a real character – although some will disagree such as Jason Knisley, a 23-year-old I met outside of the movie theater.

"It's a great movie for people into history more than for the average guy," said Knisley. As an average guy into history I would recommend this film as long as you don't put any undue pressure on the filmmakers for either realism or historical accuracy.

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## The Postal Service still on top of charts with smash 2003 release

KRISTIN MURNANE  
STAFF WRITER

With their 2003 release *Give Up* still holding the top spot on the electronic charts after 84 weeks, The Postal Service proves they're a force to be reckoned with. Their single "Such Great Heights" has been played everywhere from MTV commercials to American Eagle and other clothing stores. The collaboration of Death Cab for Cutie front man Ben Gibbard and electronic genius Jimmy Tamborello is a refreshing mix of indie rock and electronica. The two met a few years back when Tamborello asked Gibbard to lay down the vocals for the Dntel song, "(This is) The Dream of Evan and Chan."

When SubPop Records, once home to Nirvana, expressed interest in an entire EP with Tamborello and Gibbard, they gladly accepted the offer. Jimmy Tamborello started sending CD-R's of electronic beats, created from his laptop, to Gibbard's Seattle home. Ben Gibbard would then record his vocals, as well as some guitar and drums from fellow Death Cab member Chris Walla, and send the almost finished product back to Tamborello in Los Angeles. He would add the finishing touches, which included bringing in Rilo Kiley singer Jenny Lewis and

indie artist Jen Wood for backing vocals. All of this would not have come together without the help of the United States Postal Service, hence the band's name.

Almost a year later, the process was complete and on Feb. 18, 2003, their debut EP, *Give Up*, was released.

The album's opening song, "The District Sleeps Alone Tonight," is a brilliant contrast of Gibbard's disheartened lyrics with Tamborello's upbeat, whimsical drum and bass. Starting slowly and building to a bouncy, racing musical climax, this displays some of Gibbard's best songwriting to date.

The following track is the aforementioned single, "Such Great Heights." This song picks up where the previous song left off, with the bubbly electronic beat and possibly the best melody on the album. The lyrics however parallel something off an N'SYNC or Backstreet Boys album. "I'm thinking it's a sign/ that the freckles in our eyes are mirror images/ and when we kiss they're perfectly aligned," are the opening vocals on the track. To some indie fans, this song may be a bit hard to swallow, but Gibbard openly embraces pop music.

Tamborello told MTV "When Ben was actually down working with me [during the final stages], he'd stay at my house for a while [and] we'd watch a lot of 'TRL' and listen to the pop hits. And we talked a lot about what makes an effective pop song. And it's fun to have a project where it's so kind of pure pop... And it's just nice to have something kind of lighthearted."

A few tracks later is "Brand New Colony" which contains an electronic beat that sounds like it was taken from an old school Nintendo game. This love song is a great combination of Gibbard's somewhat shy hopefulness and Lewis' pretty backing vocals. As Gibbard sings, "I'll be the water wings that save you if you start drowning ... I'll be the phonograph that plays your favorite/ albums back as you lying there drifting off to sleep," he tries to turn the non-believers into lovers.

All in all, *The Postal Service* delivers a welcomed change to today's music scene. Crossing indie, electronic, and pop music genres, *Give Up* shows why it's still on top of the charts. Currently Ben Gibbard is taking some time to relax after a 14-month tour with Death Cab for Cutie before DCFC goes back into the studio to record their next album. As far as *The Postal Service* goes, they recorded, "Against All Odds," a Phil Collins cover, for the *Wicker Park* soundtrack earlier this year. "Against All Odds" is still holding on as one of the top 25 songs on college radio stations. The group's next video is for "We Will Become Silhouettes" off of *Give Up*. As for a new Postal Service album, you'll have to wait until both Dntel and DCFC finish their next albums first. Although with the holidays coming up, *Give Up* still serves as a great gift for fans of all music genres.

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

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## Shoes

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And who the days of the waited overn pair of Air Jord The lucky on the new era be lauded in t until the new

## 'It's a Great holiday

JOANNA WALDHOUR  
STAFF WRITER

As seen in is one of the gr that viewers ma times, but neve This is a film through the year release in 1946. directing, actin are good, but it still holds true to come to represe worth in life ma around them. A insignificant, difference in sc This is one of

## Gilligan

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Hunter prom always herself w were rolling an any pressure t footsteps of Tir spoiled Ginger aback, though, her cast mates v play characters. "I'm really and I find it re something in don't like," Hu

Most n States. You'll h in a var respon Sound

## Shoes from page A6

lucky enough, through some close friends at Nike, to get my hands on a pair. I bought the shoe for a figure in between \$100-\$200. The exact number is fuzzy to me now, this was a few years back, but anyway, I sold the shoe for \$1,800 to a Japanese Collector. So I guess once I found out there was good money in selling shoes online, I jumped right into it."

And who doesn't remember the days of the past when people waited overnight for the latest pair of Air Jordans to come out? The lucky ones that dawned the new era of sneaker would be lauded in the days following until the newness expired and a

newer product was made available. Many maintain the excitement of wearing the rare shoes, the fresh kicks that can stand out a mile away.

As for the future, the road ahead is bright for Hardison. "I'd really love to turn the site into possibly a sneaker magazine that you could find at Barnes and Noble and read it in the store (we all know we don't buy the magazine) while drinking a Vanilla Latte from Starbucks."

But honestly, as long as there are new shoes to sell and news to share, I'll keep doing the shoe site as long as I possibly can.

I'd also like to make some t-shirts, hoodies and hats and

offer them for sale on the site. It would be awesome if I saw someone rockin' a Shoe Center shirt on campus."

So if you like those shoes with all white high top strap with the gum bottom, or those lime green forces and kiwi or maybe the limited edition to khaki and only green, where else would you find them than at kicksonline.com?

The Shoe Center at kicksonline.com has got your fashion footwear needs ready and waiting, so get a pair or two!

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## 'It's a Wonderful Life' ultimate favorite

Great holiday classic

JOANNA WALDHOUR  
STAFF WRITER

As seen in black and white, it is one of the great ageless movies that viewers may have seen many times, but never tire of watching. This is a film that has held up through the years since its theater release in 1946. Why? Because the directing, acting and art design are good, but it is the theme that still holds true today. This film has come to represent how a person's worth in life matters to the people around them. A person may seem insignificant, but may make a difference in someone else's life. This is one of the reasons why

it is essential to keep on living.

It is set in a small American town called Bedford Falls. A small town man named George Bailey (James Stewart), after experiencing disappointments, drawbacks and his business being on the verge of bankruptcy, realizes all his efforts of what he wanted to do in his lifetime have not succeeded. He was never able to travel abroad like he wanted, he reluctantly inherits the family business from his dying father to save his town from the greedy banker Potter (Lionel Barrymore) and he was never able to accomplish his life plans. One night, he decides to end it all on Christmas Eve. But Heaven actually interferes. George's guardian angel comes

down and shows George what life would be like if he had never been born. George goes back into his hometown, only to find that it has been named Pottersville after Potter, that his wife and everyone else in town do not recognize him or even know him and all the circumstances are different.

Great acting skills by James Stewart and Donna Reed (who plays George's wife). The film may seem sentimental, but Capra somehow manages to make this movie heartwarming, funny and a wonderful feel-good movie for Christmas time. It carries a great message. Great classic holiday viewing.

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## Gilligan from page A5

aways, from which a final group of seven, one for each character on the sitcom, will be chosen. Hunter's Ginger counterpart is former "Baywatch" star Nicole Eggert.

Hunter promises that she was always herself when the cameras were rolling and she never felt any pressure to follow in the footsteps of Tina Louise's aloof, spoiled Ginger. She was taken aback, though, by how some of her cast mates were desperate to play characters.

"I'm really happy-go-lucky, and I find it really hard to find something in someone that I don't like," Hunter says. "I'll

usually like you no matter what. But there are people on this island that I just f----- can't stand, that are just horrible, frightening, just desperate-to-become-famous people."

Hunter seems to have had particular trouble with her Mary Ann.

"How can I put this?" Hunter says haltingly, trying to avoid stirring up trouble. "I always tried to be really nice to Mary Ann. She ended up being pretty evil."

A poll on TBS's Web site suggests that nearly two-thirds of users would rather be with Mary Ann than Ginger, but Hunter

—most recently an object of lust in the Fountains of Wayne video "Stacey's Mom"—can only scoff, "I don't think I need to make a case. The case is closed."

Perhaps because of the tension with some of her cast mates, Hunter took the game-show aspect of "The Real Gilligan's Island" very seriously.

"Competition is competition no matter what," she declares. "I don't have any of that pop psychology that America has. To me, when you're put up against competition, you're competitive no matter what. I'm not going to sit back and let somebody win."

## TV is 'blitzen' us with specials

(KRT)—It's that time of year - lots of shopping, cooking and wrapping to keep us busy. And it's a busy season on television as well.

But none of it requires spending wads of money, lifting a finger (just a thumb on the remote) or leaving the cozy confines of the couch.

Here are some of the highlights of the holiday programming onslaught:

-Nick Lachey and Jessica Simpson further cement their reign as the Sonny and Cher for the new millennium with a holiday variety hour.

"Nick & Jessica's Family Christmas," Wednesday at 9 p.m. on ABC, has Nick's old band, 98 Degrees, reuniting for a rendition of "I'll Be Home for Christmas."

But that's not all. Jessica is joined by little sister Ashlee for their first-ever TV duet.

-It's hard to believe, but Rupolph, Hermey the Elf and those lovable Misfit Toys turn 40 this year. CBS screens the long-running holiday classic "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer," featuring Burl Ives and a score by Johnny Marks, Wednesday at 8 p.m.

-The Eds learn the true meaning of Christmas in "Ed, Edd 'n' Eddy's Jingle, Jangle, Jangle," Friday at 8 p.m. on the Cartoon Network. When Eddy finds his presents in the attic and they all stink, he decides the only way to save his Christmas is to get adopted into another family with better presents.

But Ed and Edd help Eddy realize that there's more to the holiday than just loot under a tree.

-Joe Mantegna and Jean Smart play a married couple who are skating on the brink of divorce in the CBS movie "A Very Married Christmas," Sunday at 9 p.m., based on Elizabeth Berg's best seller "Say When." Mantegna plays the oblivious husband who is shocked when his wife (Smart) suddenly announces she wants to split up. Charles Durning co-stars.

-NBC's "Fear Factor" has a special holiday episode, Dec. 6 at 8 p.m., in which contestants step into Santa's boots and try to deliver presents despite the presence of vicious guard dogs.

"Groundhog Day" meets "A Christmas Carol" in USA's "12 Days of Christmas Eve," Dec. 7 at 8 p.m. Steven Weber plays a high-powered, self-centered corporate raider and 21st-century Scrooge who is forced to relive Christmas Eve until he learns the true meaning of the holiday. Molly Shannon co-stars.

-The Fab 5 morph into Santa's little helpers for "A Very Queer Eye Christmas," Dec. 7 at 10 p.m. on Bravo, taking on one family's bad decorations, holiday cliches and gifting needs.

"A Clay Aiken Christmas," Dec. 8 at 8 p.m. on NBC, includes the "American Idol" runnerup performing favorite holiday songs with Barry Manilow and gospel singer Yolanda Adams. "Will & Grace's" Megan Mullally also stops by for a solo.

-The weather outside is rarely frightful in "The O.C.," but things inside the annual Winter Ball could be when Marissa (Mischa Barton) uses the event to publicly acknowledge her relationship with handyman D.J. (Nicholas Gonzalez), Dec. 9 at 8 p.m. on Fox.

-Ben Stiller, Hugh Grant, Britney Spears, Jim Belushi, Brad Garrett, Leah Remini, Jerry Stiller and James Woods bring to life the animated tale of "Robbie the Reindeer: Hooves of Fire," Dec. 11 at 8 p.m. on CBS. Robbie (voiced by Ben Stiller) must train to compete in the Reindeer races against black sheep reindeer Blitzen (Grant) for a spot on Santa's sleigh team.

-George Lopez brings his comedy to the ABC movie "Naughty or Nice," Dec. 11 at 8 p.m. Lopez plays a sports radio jock who changes his stripes at the earnest entreaty of a young boy with a life-threatening illness. Once Lopez starts being nice, funny things start to happen, the boys health improves and so do the home

teams' scores.

-The wacky Wiggles - the sensations of the preschool set - gear up for the holidays with a little help from rocker John Fogerty, "Brady Bunch" alum Barry Williams and a big guy in a red suit. "Santa's Rockin'," Dec. 6 at 10 a.m. on the Disney Channel, features 12 classic and new Christmas songs, including "Silent Night" performed in Spanish and English.

-Pop-culture magazine Entertainment Weekly recaps the year's trends in "The Biggest Little Things of 2004," Dec. 16 at 9 p.m. on Bravo. The special examines the "iPod craze," post-Janet Jackson "censorship mania" and the "Perversion of the Family" epitomized by shows like "Desperate Housewives," "Wife Swap" and "Family Bonds."

-"Karroll's Christmas," Dec. 14 at 8 p.m. on A&E, is another take on the Dickens classic. Tom Everett Scott stars as a young greeting-card executive visited by the ghost of a Marley (more Bob than Jacob), as well as the Ghosts of Christmas Past, Present and Future. Verne (Mini-Me) Troyer plays the Ghost of Christmas Future and Sha Na Na is featured on the soundtrack.


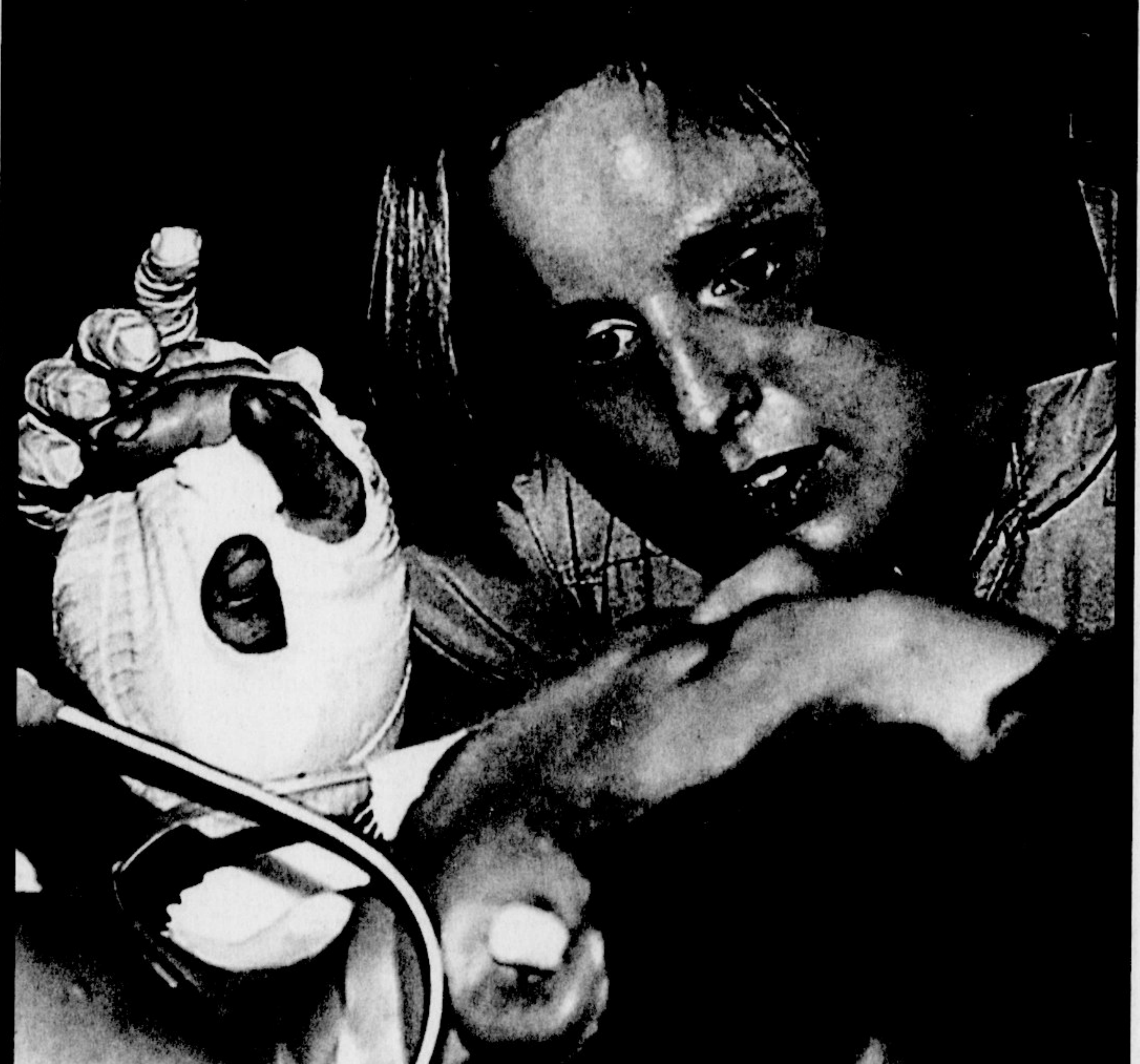
-Dr. Phil and his wife are back for TNT's annual "Christmas in Washington" concert with such acts as JoJo, Michael McDonald, LeAnn Rimes, Ruben Studdard and Vanessa Williams, Dec. 15 at 8 p.m.

-CBS' "Home for the Holidays 2004," Dec. 22 at 8 p.m., attempts to raise awareness of adoption via inspirational stories. Jamie Foxx, who was adopted, hosts the special, which includes performances by Black Eyed Peas and Ashlee Simpson.

-"A Christmas Story," Jean Shepherd's classic tale about a boy who wants a BB gun from Santa, gets a 24-hour run on TBS starting at 8 p.m. on Dec. 24.

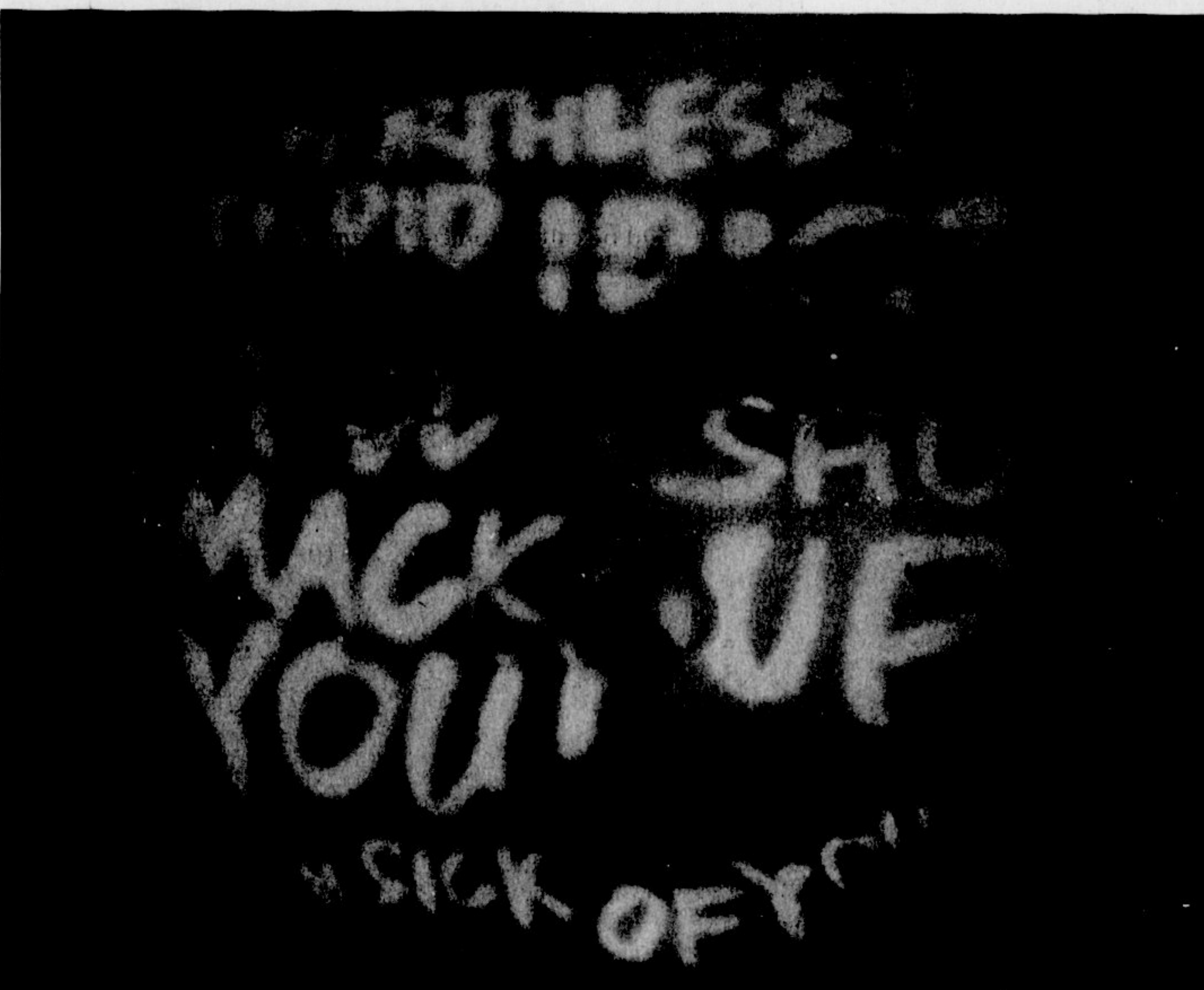
-Regis Philbin and Kelly Ripa head to sunny Florida to host ABC's coverage of "The Walt Disney World Christmas Day Parade," Dec. 25 at 11 a.m.

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## Sports Briefs

## Ebersol's son found in wreckage

Investigators probing what caused a jet to crash during takeoff want to know whether it was de-iced before it went down, killing NBC Sports chairman Dick Ebersol's youngest son and two other people, a federal official said Tuesday. They have not ruled out other possible factors. The plane carrying Ebersol and two of his sons crashed Sunday while taking off from the airport outside this small town 185 miles southwest of Denver. A snowstorm had moved through the area and there was light snow and fog at the time of takeoff. Digging through the charred wreckage, investigators on Monday found what is believed to be the body of 14-year-old Edward Ebersol, youngest son of Ebersol, 57, and his wife, Kate and Allie star Susan Saint James. The couple's oldest son, Charles, and the plane's co-pilot remain hospitalized and are expected to recover. Saint James and the middle Ebersol son, 18-year-old Willie, were not on the flight. The pilot, 50-year-old Luis Alberto Polanco Espallat of the Dominican Republic, and flight attendant Warren T. Richardson III, 36, of Coral Gables, Fla., were also killed. The co-pilot was in critical condition at a burn unit in Denver.

## Willingham fired

Coach Tyrone Willingham was fired by Notre Dame on Tuesday after three seasons in which he failed to return one of the nation's most storied football programs to prominence. Willingham went 21-15, including 6-5 this season. The Fighting Irish lost 41-10 to No. 1 Southern California on Saturday. Players are considering not playing in the Insight Bowl on Dec. 28, and White said he didn't know who would coach the game. Notre Dame accepted the invitation to the game on Sunday. Willingham's firing comes after a season in which the Irish pulled off upset victories over Michigan and Tennessee but also were beaten badly by USC and Purdue. Student groups were planning a protest on campus Tuesday evening to call for Willingham's firing; he faced criticism from fans much of the season. White praised Willingham's handling of the team, especially the Irish's strong academic record. Notre Dame's loss to USC on Saturday marked the fifth time the Irish lost by 31 points or more under Willingham -- including three against the rival Trojans. By comparison, former coach Bob Davie's team had just one such loss: Lou Holtz and Dan Devine had none.

## Boggs, Strawberry head HOF ballot

Five-time AL batting champion Wade Boggs, eight-time All-Star Darryl Strawberry and two-time NL batting champion Willie McGee are among 12 players who will appear on the Hall of Fame ballot for the first time. Ryne Sandberg, Bruce Sutter, Jim Rice, Andre Dawson and Rich Gossage head the returning players on the ballots, which will be mailed this week to eligible voters in the Baseball Writers' Association of America. Also among the newcomers announced Monday are three-time All-Star outfielder Chili Davis, 1993 AL Cy Young Award winner Jack McDowell, three-time All-Star reliever Jeff Montgomery and four-time All-Star pitcher Mark Langston. Pete Rose, once again, will not be on the ballot because he is on baseball's permanently ineligible list, the result of a 1989 agreement that followed an investigation of his gambling. Rose, who earlier this year admitted he bet on baseball while managing the Cincinnati Reds in the 1980s, must gain reinstatement within the next year to appear on the 2006 ballot, the final year he would be eligible for the BBWAA vote. While Rose applied for reinstatement in 1997, baseball commissioner Bud Selig has not ruled and will not give a timetable for a decision. Paul Molitor and Dennis Eckersley were elected to the Hall last year, while Sandberg was 71 votes short of the required 75 percent needed for election. 60-50 and Arkansas-Little Rock 79-54, was No. 1 on seven ballots.

## Lady Pirates struggle over Thanksgiving break

BRANDI RENFRO  
SPORTS WRITER

Welcome back Lady Pirate fans. I hope each of you had an enjoyable Thanksgiving break. The Lady Pirates didn't have the best break as they lost three games in a row. The first loss

came from George Washington University, and two more losses followed during the Four Points LAX Turkey Shootout.

But, before I dwell on the losses handed to them, I have to applaud them on their successful season opener. They blew Duquesne out of the water and it was a very exciting game. If you weren't there, you missed a great game topped off by Jennifer Jackson's 23-point performance. Soraya Hellaby and Viola Cooper also

showed signs of greatness during the game. That game showed what type of team they have this year when everyone contributes.

Then the unthinkable happened, the Lady Pirates were held to their lowest point total in seven years ... SEVEN YEARS. The Lady Colonials of George Washington University held ECU to a total of 34 points. At halftime, the Lady Pirates only managed to score 13. Some other interesting facts about this

game include Jackson being held scoreless during the game, ECU outrebounded the Lady Colonials and Keisha Anthony led ECU in scoring with eight points.

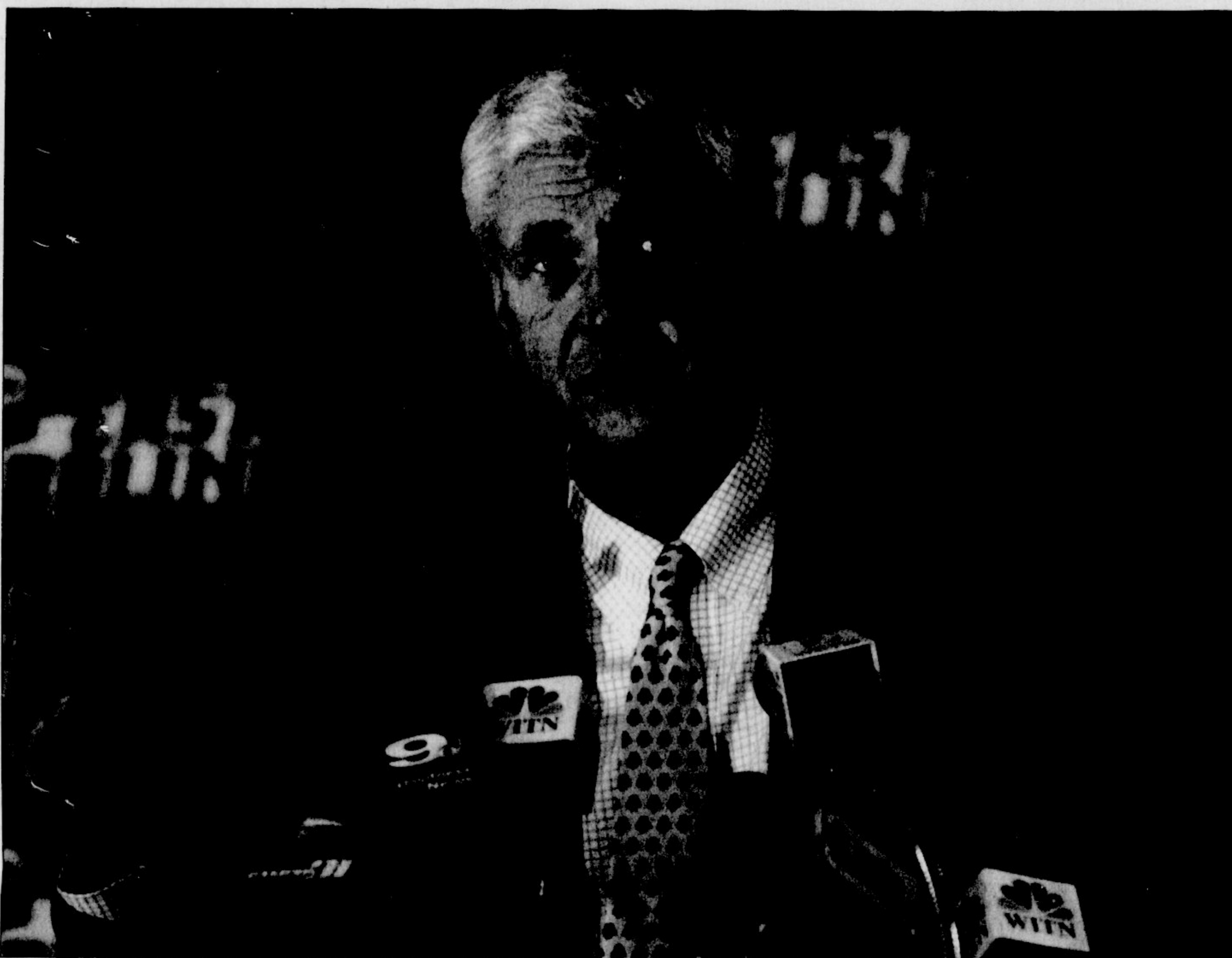
The first thing I have to comment on is Jackson being held scoreless during the entire game. I did some research and I found out she hasn't been scoreless in a game since her freshman year. Either the Lady Colonials played tremendous defense or this was a horrible shooting night for her.

I think it was a little bit of both because Jackson only took seven shots during the game due to the Lady Colonials' pressure defense.

The other thing I have to bring up is the fact that Anthony was the leading scorer for the Lady Pirates with eight points. That's shocking in itself that no one scored more than eight points in a 40-minute game. They have to have someone step up all

see POINTS page A9

## Holland candid about search for new coach



Holland speaks to the media at a press conference Tuesday regarding ECU's search for a new head football coach.

## AD explains Thompson's early resignation

ERIC GILMORE  
STAFF WRITER

Terry Holland spoke publicly for the first time since then-ECU head football coach John Thompson announced his resignation on Tuesday. The smooth talking athletic director covered a variety of topics surrounding the recent forced resignation, the existing coaching search and the direction of the

athletic program.

Prior to Holland's arrival, the conference expansion had passed ECU by. The football team continually lost and the Pirate Club donations were down.

"I arrived at a very unusual time of the year for an athletic director," said Holland addressing the media in regards to when he took over the reigns on Oct. 1.

"I tried as best as I could to observe what was happening, not only in our football program, but also throughout the university. I had a chance to be a little

bit of an objective observer and I tried to do that, particularly with football, in a way that was unobtrusive, but also allowed me to get a feel for what was going on."

In a cool, calm and collected manner, Holland's words soothed the Pirate faithful, many of which are frantic about the state of the football program.

"We need to be building a program for the long term. It's not as simple as just buying a program. You can't do that in today's world," Holland said. It was the first chance Holland

had to explain his decision regarding Thompson's resignation. The former Virginia athletic director acknowledged that two years was not long enough for Thompson to build a program. However, the legendary basketball coach did not feel Thompson's team was improving rapidly enough. "Within a two year period, you have to be showing progress in certain areas that allow your contract to be extended. The worse your record is during that time, the more focus there is

see HOLLAND page A9

## Conference USA Basketball: Cincinnati

## Bearcats looking to 'claw' their way back

TRENT WYNNE  
STAFF WRITER

Dynasty: a sequence of powerful leaders in the same family. In the sports realm, teams like the Chicago Bulls, Boston Celtics, L.A. Lakers and New York Yankees may come to mind when considering this term as it is applied to athletics.

Cincinnati Bearcats. A dynasty of their own.

Don't agree? They may not favor the likes of Jordan's Bulls, Larry's Celtics, Magic's Lakers or Ruth's Yankees, but in their own quiet little way, the Cincinnati Bearcats have established a dominance over their Conference USA opponents ever since the league was introduced nine years ago. The Cats have snatched at least a share of the title in eight of the conference's nine years in existence.

"We have done a lot for the league in the first nine years, and at the same time, the league has been good to us," said Cincinnati head basketball coach Bob Huggins in an interview with Bearcat SID.

Huggins' squad is picked to finish third this year in C-USA as voted on by the coaches. Preseason C-USA player of the year, Francisco Garcia and his Louisville Cardinals are picked to finish atop the league followed by the Memphis Tigers.

"C-USA is a great league and I think it will be very strong from top

to bottom this year," Huggins said.

Cincinnati may have a little trouble keeping pace with the likes of Louisville and Memphis this season due to the departure of last year starters' Kareem Johnson and Field Williams, and maybe the league's best sixth man in Tony Bobbitt. Combined the three averaged 26 points per contest, more than a third of the total offensive output of last season's team. However, the biggest stat of all lies behind the arc, which is where

Williams and Bobbitt did the most damage, connecting on 75 percent of the team's three-point field goals.

Even with this astounding number put up by his former players, Huggins is not ready to give up on the perimeter game just yet.

"I think we have great depth on the perimeter," Huggins said, who is beginning his 16th season at Cincinnati. "We have great size on the perimeter."

Juniors James White (6' 7") and Armein Kirkland (6' 8") will create huge mismatches for the opposition as both can shoot the trifecta and dive inside from time to time, Kirkland a little more often.

"Inside, we are a little thin," Huggins said.

"We will even have to use Armein in there, though he doesn't know that yet. We're going to be small. We will be mismatched at times with our lack of size, but when we go to the other end of the court, we'll create some mismatches."



Cincinnati's Armein Kirkland drives to the basket during the second half of the Bearcat game against Purdue Saturday.

Kirkland will try and complement the likes of Jason Maxiell in the post, a player named yet again to the preseason C-USA all-conference team for the third straight year. Maxiell begins his senior season with 1,060 career points while suited up in the red and black. Also, his 161 blocks has him ranked second all-time in school history behind C-USA record

see CINCINNATI page A9

ROBERT LEONARD  
STAFF WRITER

I've never been a big fan of clichés. People need to think of a better way to describe what they are feeling instead of using a phrase everyone seems to use. In sports, the clichés used drive me crazy.

The worst one is the roller coaster analogy. It gets really old and is overused in my opinion. But as I look at the first four games of the basketball season, the Pirates are on a roller coaster. There really is no other way to describe it.

ECU opened their season in the BCA Invitational, an eight-team tournament in Raleigh with NC State as the host. It was pretty obvious by just looking at the brackets that the Pack was the host of this tournament. In the upper half of the bracket was NC State along with national powerhouses Elon, New Orleans and Fairleigh Dickinson. ECU's bracket had Pepperdine, Oregon State and Sierra.

Going into the first round match-up with Pepperdine, things did not look good for Bill Herrion's Pirates. Moussa was out due to NCAA suspension, ECU has always struggled outside of Greenville and Pepperdine had received votes in both top 25 polls.

So what happens? The Pirates end up winning by 22 after being down six at the half. Mike Cook scored a career high 21 to lead the Pirates. Josh King and Tom Hammonds also scored in double figures to start their career.

I was shocked. I'm just as much as a Pirate fan as everyone here, but I am also a realist. To think we would win this game in convincing fashion totally changed my opinion about this team and what I thought would happen this season.

The next night the Pirates took on a very good Oregon State team. ECU fell down 11-0 to start the game and fought back like a winning team would. Mike Cook bested his total from the night before with a new career high of 22 and Japhet McNeil hit two clutch free-throws to seal the game and gave the Pirates a 2-point win.

Once again, we got another shocker. Not that we won, but how we won. Cook is evolving into a dominant scorer and guys like John Hart, Hammonds and King are playing their roles perfectly. We hit free-throws down the stretch, something this team has not done in my time here.

Believe it or not, the Wolfpack won their side of the bracket in what could prove to be NCAA tournament previews with those kinds of powerhouses they played. So with a preview of the football match-up on the hardwood, the Pirates battled the Pack. Just like the football game, a quicker and better Wolfpack team dominated ECU and coasted to a huge victory.

Coming out of this tournament 2-1 is a success. Moussa looked awesome against NC State and showed his offense has improved a great deal. He scored 15 and was a perfect 5-for-5 at the foul line. Cook scored in double figures again and was honored with All-Tournament team honors.

I guess you could say the Pirates were at the top of the roller coaster. Using another cliché, what comes up, must come down.

And down it came, quickly. ECU was completely dominated by Gardner Webb during the break and lost by 30 points. The Bulldogs dropped 90 on a defensive minded ECU team. This came one game after giving up 100 to the Pack.

I feel this team will win several games where they are underdogs, and lose several games where we are favored.

So, here we go -- all aboard the roller coaster.

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

UAB junior for  
Antwain Barbo

## Cincinnati

holder Kenyon

The them shots works to Huggins, who is tough defense. Bearcats have goal of playing over at the helm in the opposition to goal percentage, defensive performance the second in the nation.

The Bearcats' the 2004-2005 season nationally ranked time since the post early in November.

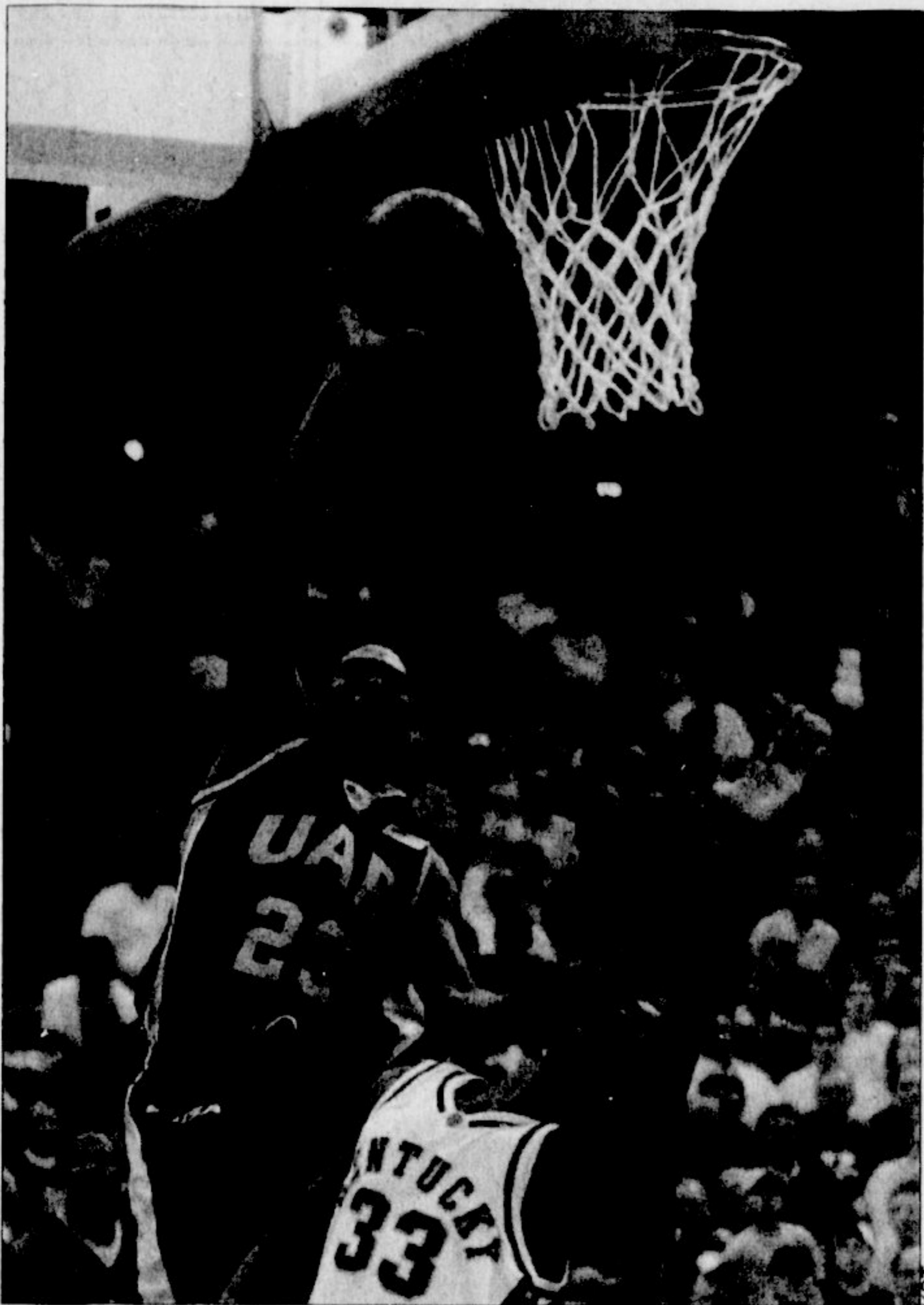
"Getting ran 25 is nice, but you out and work hard beat good people."

Beat "good something the definitely have to have a successful nati faces 18 team post season action

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# UAB hoping to blaze a trail into NCAA's again Holland from page A8



UAB junior forward Demario Eddins drives on Kentucky's Antwain Barbour during the NCAA tournament last year.

## Blazers have potential go deep into tourney

BRENT WYNNE  
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

After an improbable run to the sweet 16, which included an upset victory over number one and highly touted Kentucky, UAB enters the 2004-2005 basketball season with a new-found optimism.

Head Coach Mike Anderson, in his third season, has finally installed his defensive minded style of basketball in the Blazer program. So although UAB lost key scorers, including superstar Mo Finley, who was the catalyst for the Blazers' deep run into the NCAA tournament, that defensive mind-set should allow 2004's team to pick up where last year's squad left off.

Big man Gabe Kennedy and guard Sidney Ball also graduate from last year's squad. The two combined for 18.8 points per game last season.

Replacing Kennedy was something Anderson was unable to accomplish during the off-season, so a new look three guard, two forward line-up will be installed into this year's plan.

The back-court will be led by

twins brothers Ronell and Donell Taylor, whom became during last year's NCAA tournament against Kentucky when Ronell found Donell on a fast break with an over the head no-look pass from foul line to foul line for the dunk and the momentum in the game.

At 6-foot, 6-inches and 6-foot, 5-inches respectively, the combination of the twins could prove to be too much for opponent, not only in the mental aspect of the game, where the two have an obvious advantage, but physically as well, as the Taylors will provide some serious match-up problems for the opposition.

At the point position, the Blazers return Carldell Johnson for his junior season. Johnson led the nation during his sophomore year in assist to turnover ration with an astounding 3.83 assists per turnover. With 137 assists and only 35 turnovers, don't expect UAB to give the ball up much during the game. This kid hardly ever makes a mistake with the ball.

In the front-court, Demario Eddins will have to have another solid year in order for the Blazers to repeat last season's success. Voted as the most all-around and versatile player on last year's squad, Eddins averaged 10.1

points and 4.7 rebounds per game during the regular season and was a stud in the NCAA tournament, averaging 15 points and five rebounds in the three games.

An interesting addition to UAB for the 2004 season is Michael Anderson Jr. A candidate for walk-on, Anderson is the son of Head Coach Mike Anderson. While Mike Jr. likely won't see a lot of minutes, he may help dad from getting hot under the collar at times, and save the team some technical fouls and crucial points.

A freshman that has an opportunity to have an impact on the court is forward Frank Holmes. During his first two contests, Holmes has averaged three points and 2.5 rebounds. His numbers are comical now, but his minutes should rise with experienced gained.

The Blazers lost nearly 33 points of total offense from last year's team, but don't expect a team that relies on their defensive prowess to falter because of the circumstances. The twins and Eddins will shoulder the scoring load, this team will play awesome defense, and I fully expect them to make a return trip to the NCAA tournament this season.

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## Cincinnati from page A8

holder Kenyon Martin (292).

The theme of blocks shots works to the likes of Huggins, who is a stickler on tough defense, something the Bearcats have gained a reputation of playing ever since he took over at the helm in 1989. Holding the opposition to just a .374 field goal percentage, last year's squad defensive performances earned them the second ranked defense in the nation.

The Bearcats' play thus far in the 2004-2005 season has them nationally ranked for the first time since the polls were released early in November.

"Getting ranked in the Top 25 is nice, but you still have to go out and work hard, play hard and beat good people," Huggins said.

Beat "good people" is something the Bearcats will definitely have to do in order to have a successful year as Cincinnati faces 18 teams which saw postseason action in the 2003-

2004 campaign. Out of the 18, 15 teams participated in the NCAA, five of which reached the sweet 16.

"We've established a tradition of playing challenging schedules, and this year's no different," Huggins said.

Returning to the top of C-USA may be the toughest of any year Cincinnati has been a part of the league. With losing a significant amount of scoring, defending and leadership, the Bearcats will have to look to their nine returning lettermen to provide the spark and carry the team to victory in conference play this season.

However, if all things go as planned, Cincinnati may make it nine out of 10 and maybe even make it into what you consider: A dynasty.

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## Points from page A8

of the time and Jackson has to find a way to get the other players involved. Every player on the court should consider themselves to be a scorer. I know some more than others have the capability to put up big numbers, but each of them can score. It's just a matter of if they will score.

After the horrible George Washington game, the Lady Pirates headed to California for the LAX Shootout. This Shootout consisted of some fairly good teams, but they were all beatable. If ECU would have had everybody on the same page they could have won the entire tournament. But, things didn't go that way at all.

Their first match up was against Montana University. On paper, both teams looked evenly matched, but evidently that was not the case as ECU lost by eight points. There were some negative points in this game, but there were also some high points.

Hellaby scored a career high, 12 points, and ECU out-rebounded their opponent again. However, other than Hellaby, no other ECU player scored in double digits and Jackson was held to nine points. I think that unless Jackson can get back to that scoring mentality the Lady Pirates will struggle. They must have more people contributing and right now there is no real balance on the offensive side of the court.

After the loss to Montana, ECU faced Cal State Fullerton. Once again the Lady Pirates lost, but some people finally stepped up and put points on the board. Anthony, Shanita Sutton and Nicole Days all had double-digit games, but it was not enough for them to win the game. They also outrebounded their opponent again, which has become a common theme for the Lady Pirates thus far.

I must say, maybe I was wrong about this team needing at least

two people to score in double digits for them to win because they had three people score in double digits and they still lost. I am really at a loss for words as far as this game because if you look at the box score ECU should have won. They just couldn't get it done at the end of the game.

They missed some key shots at the end of the second half and the Lady Titans of Cal State knocked down the shots they needed to win, plain and simple.

But, once again I must point out that Jackson was held to single digits again. I believe as Jackson goes so does the team, and unless she can bring back the 20-point performances they will continue to struggle.

We shall see if their next game against Savannah State University will lift them from this abysmal losing streak.

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going to be."

Thompson's 3-20 record was not sufficient for Holland to guarantee recruits and their parents that Thompson would be their coach throughout.

"In that case, we would have to say, essentially, that we are going to be behind this coach and coaching staff for another four years. No," Holland said.

Holland discussed the coaching search and touched on a variety of issues without naming any potential candidates. He spoke about the trends in college football in hiring a college football coach. He spoke about when he hired Al Groh, who had NFL head coaching experience. A coordinator for an NFL team is a possible method. Holland cited Urban Meyer and Dennis Franchione as current coaches that were stolen away from other programs.

Holland spoke about Chuck Amato and Rich Rodriguez in hiring coaches at their alma mater. He touched on coaches such as Bobby Ross who were retired, but willing to get back in the game. He even spoke about hiring a coordinator from within, but later said that none of the current staff are in the pool of candidates.

"Those are the tried and true methods of trying to select the next football coach. All of those are currently options," Holland said.

The 62-year old athletic director stated that all of the assistant coaches are paid through March on vacation-leave so they will be able to use their office to find new jobs. The senior assistant on the staff Jerry McManus and Harold Robinson both were retained to oversee recruiting efforts.

"I think that recruiting is important, but it is not nearly as important as getting the right person. If we are forced to wait until the bowl games are over or until the NFL season is over because we have found the right person, we will all find a way to make the recruiting work in the meantime."

The Davidson graduate said the process could take a while because it's essential to make the right choice.

"I think we are at a crossroads. I don't think there is any question that this is an important time. This is a critically important hire."

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

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# CLASSIFIEDS & COMICS

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WEDNESDAY December 1, 2004

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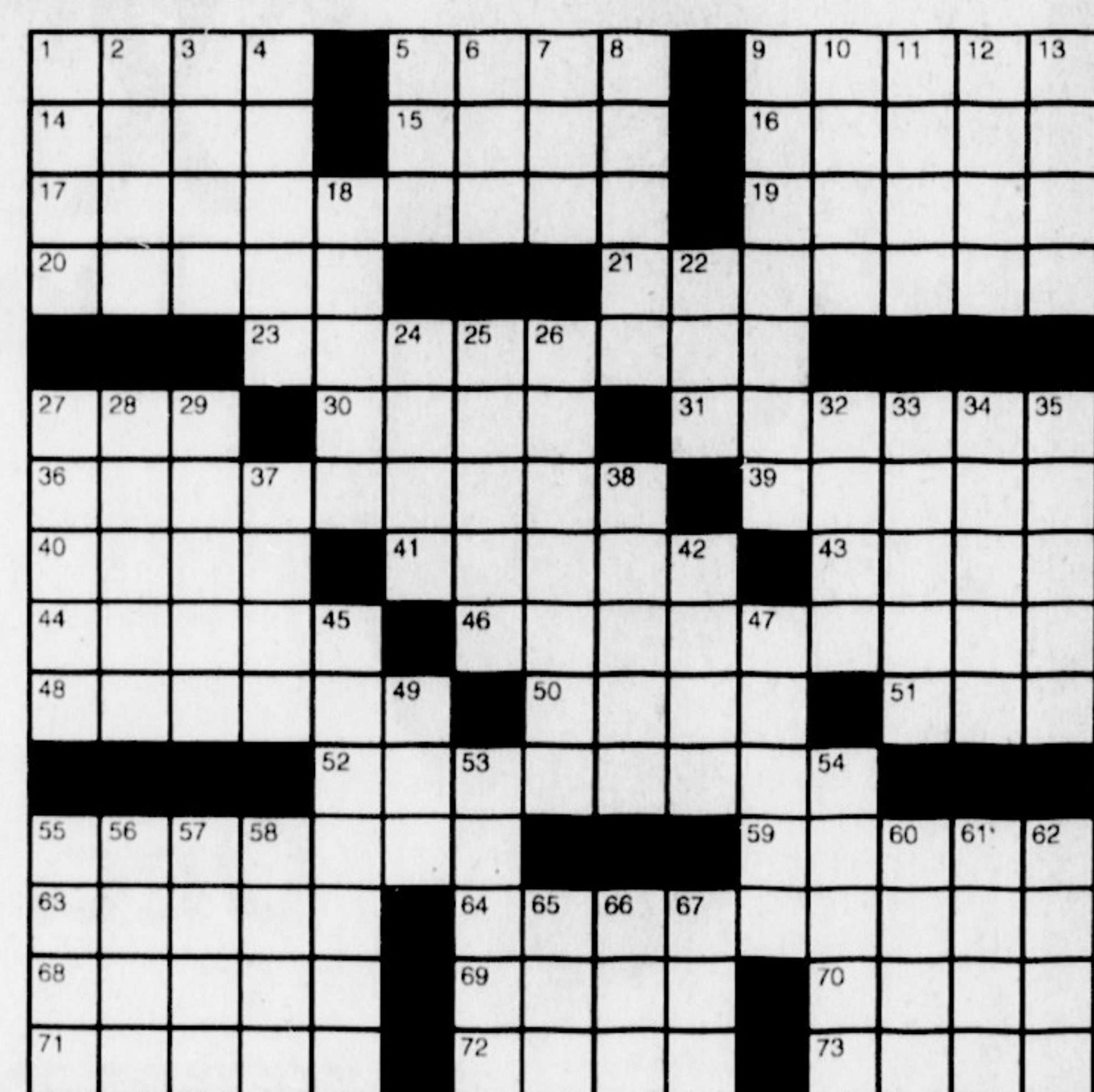
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## Crossword

### ACROSS

- 1 Lived hand to mouth
- 5 Cowardly Lion player
- 9 Israeli PM Itzhak
- 14 Backside
- 15 Notion
- 16 Musical piece
- 17 Defiant
- 19 "Guys and "
- 20 Night's rest
- 21 Salesman's offering
- 23 Tide pool site
- 27 Clinch
- 30 Cairo's river
- 31 Consumers
- 36 Document destruction devices
- 39 Trick alternative
- 40 du jour
- 41 Broom stroke
- 43 Puccini tune
- 44 Bumped, as a bid
- 46 Sharpening
- 48 High regard
- 50 Composer Stravinsky
- 51 Needle hole
- 52 Wizard
- 55 Destroyer escort
- 59 Veggie dish
- 63 Nearby
- 64 Parade group
- 68 Concerning
- 69 College credit
- 70 Movie dog
- 71 Proceeds on
- 72 Mall event
- 73 Collective pronoun



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12/01/04

### Solutions

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- 54 Morocco's capital
- 55 Blemish
- 56 Spa garment
- 57 Computer image
- 58 Trinket
- 60 Secure with a cord
- 61 Feed the pot
- 62 June 6, 1944
- 65 Cell substance letters
- 66 Be indisposed
- 67 Sault Marie

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HA! IT'S OVER!! IT'S OVER!! I WIN THE BET!!

Hey, Beezelub.

HA! I AVENGE MY BELOVED YANKERS LOSS... PAY UP, SICKER!!

I think we should wait til they count all the votes...

Count all the votes?? The Democrats have given up already!! They're the party that rolls over & dies.

Democrats- Philgmocrats... I meant for Nader to win this time.

Well, Never underestimate the resourcefulness of Gee Duhne Bush!!

Allright. I'll go get the handbasket.

And make sure it's big enough this time!! The world fell out of the last one you gave to me!!

**The Family Monster**

Would you introduce yourself to a mass murderer - sad to meet you -

Because, technically, you wouldn't be happy to see him.

That's terrible. You shouldn't even think those things.

It's impossible to have an adult conversation with your mother.

By Josh Shalek

# ALL HANDS ON DECK



The theme of the 2004-05 ECU men's basketball team is youth and inexperience. The Pirates showcase a starting lineup that will feature at least one new face every night. However, don't underestimate this squad. They have compiled a record of 3-2 thus far, including two straight victories in the BCA Invitational. *The East Carolinian* takes an inside look at the Pirates' key players and the team's potential to win games this season.

From left to right: Japhet McNeil, Marvin Kilgore, Moussa Badiane, Corey Rouse, and Mike Cook. Photo by Tanesha Sistrunk.

# The Mouss is loose

Lone senior poised to have stellar season

ERIC GILMORE  
STAFF WRITER

When Moussa Badiane arrived on this campus just four short years ago, he was a tall, wiry, raw talent who happened to play basketball. Now, with four years of hard work and dedication, Badiane is a chiseled veteran NBA prospect.

Badiane's progression showed when he notched a career-high 26 points against division II, Belmont-Abbey on Sunday. He recorded his fifth double-double of his career with 10 rebounds.

"Moussa did a great job and almost had a triple-double," said ECU Head Coach Bill Herriion after the game.

The crowd favorite has matured before the eyes of the Pirate faithful though it hasn't been easy. It's been a transformation for the French native over these last four years, both on and off the court.

"I never visited this campus," said the 6-foot, 10-inch center with his thick French accent.

Badiane's brother, Pape was recruited by ECU the previous year, but instead signed with Cleveland State.

"My brother told me it was a great campus and a great school. I really didn't think about it. I just signed. I don't regret it."

The younger brother credits Pape, who is currently playing professionally back in France, for much of his development.

"He was really important. I followed his path coming to the United States. I'm here because of him."

Through his improvement, the protégé thinks he has passed his brother's game.

"He used to be better than me, but I think [I'm better] now."

On the court, Badiane had time to adjust to the culture-shock his freshman season because he and then-sophomore Gabriel Mikulas had to sit out the

first six and eight games respectively because of their participation in non-sanctioned leagues overseas.

The management major still shined by starting 15 games and blocking a shot in all 24 games he played for the Pirates. He set a Conference USA single-season record for blocked shots (87) in ECU's first year in the league. The young buck was instrumental in upsets over Louisville and nationally-ranked Marquette garnering at least 10 points and five blocks in each game.

Badiane led C-USA for a second consecutive season in his sophomore campaign. Even though he didn't start as many games as a sophomore, Badiane improved his game. His offensive production increased in scoring to 6.9 points per game. He also upped his free-throw accuracy by 14 percentage points. However, ECU's tough season ended without a trip to the C-USA tournament.

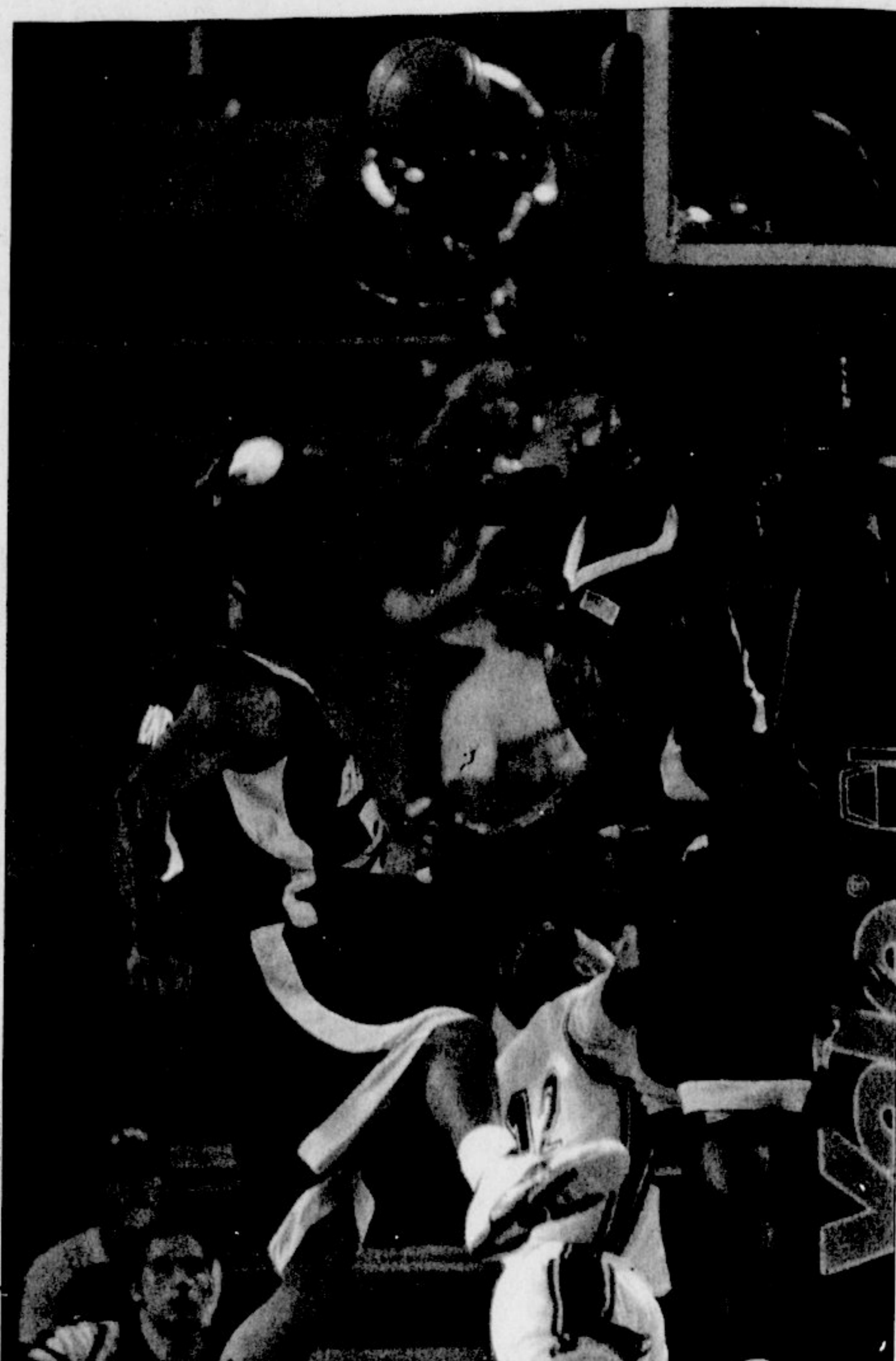
Badiane's junior season took an interesting turn when fellow frontcourt player, Mikulas broke his foot before conference play. Fighting constant foul trouble, Badiane was called on to fill the void.

"When [Mikulas] got hurt, I had to learn to stay on the court. I think I did a good job of getting a lot of minutes. I know how to handle it now."

Badiane set new marks in minutes per game (25.9), field goal percentage (.555), rebounding average (6.3), blocks (90) and scoring (8.5).

The 220-pounder saw seven of his teammates leave the team last season, five through graduation. This season, Badiane's role is to lead a slew of young players.

"My coaches want me to be more vocal. It's not really my personality, but I have to make the effort. Obviously, I have to be a leader of this team. For most of the players on this team, it's the first time playing college basketball. They really don't know what to expect so I have to show them the way."



Badiane is the only senior on the 2004-05 ECU squad.

Badiane has the pressure of eight different players' dedication that he learned from previous ECU players.

"I have to lead by example. I have to be on time, go to class and do the right thing. I hope that everybody is going to follow."

Badiane needs just 37 blocks to become the all-time C-USA leader in blocks.

"It doesn't really mean anything to me. If I stay on the court and do what I'm supposed to do, I know I'm going to get it so it's not a big deal."

The senior is already attracting pro scouts with his stellar play thus far. Through five games, he

has set new career-high marks in minutes played (28.0), field-goal percentage (56.3), free throw percentage (80.0), rebounds per game (6.8), and almost doubled points per game (16.5).

Still, Badiane understands what he must do to take his game to the next level wherever that may be.

"Obviously, I have to get bigger. Personally, I think I have to improve in every part of my game. I'm not satisfied with any part of my game. I have to rebound better and score more."

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

## Philly duo highlights Pirate perimeter

Mike Cook and Marvin Kilgore talk with TEC

TRENT WYNNE  
STAFF WRITER

Coming into the 2004-2005 season, several concerns surrounded the ECU

Men's Basketball Team and its youthfulness. However, the play of Mike Cook was not one. Cook, in his first season as a Pirate, was named to the Conference USA all freshman team and was second on the team in scoring as a freshman.

The main question and concern heading into this year's season may have been whether or not the play at the point guard position would improve.

That was quickly answered as sophomore point guard, Japhet McNeil showed that he had come a long way in the maturation process. Along with McNeil's improved play came the addition of freshman Marvin Kilgore. Early on, Kilgore has dazzled the crowd with his nifty ball handling and his ability to get to the bucket as well as shoot the deep ball—something the Pirates needed to get better at this year as well.

Cook and Kilgore share a common background in Philadelphia, Pa. and both are the subjects of this week's inside look at the Pirate basketball squad.

TEC: What part of Philadelphia did you grow up in?

MC: West.

MK: North.

TEC: Did you ever play against one another in high school?

MK: Yea, we played against each other in the Sunny Hill League.

TEC: How was life growing up?

MC: On the court, everything was kind of easy, but off the court I was under a microscope, especially being at a private school. You have a lot of people looking at you and watching every move that you make.

MK: Me, I wasn't always good. I had to work hard for what I got. I wasn't under the microscope until I got good (with a laugh).

TEC: How old were you when you began playing basketball and

do you have a family history in the sport?

MC: Seven. My dad, mom, grandfather and a couple of my uncles played.

MK: Seven.

TEC: Did either one of you ever think about giving up the game at any point in your life?

MC: No. Never.

MK: When I was about 12 years old I did not know if I wanted to play anymore.

TEC: Ever try any other sports in high school?

MC: Nope, just always played basketball.

MK: I ran track but didn't do that very long because it was taking up too much of my time.

TEC: What is the biggest difference that you have noticed in the play of high school ball and college ball?

MC: The speed of the game is a lot faster. Everybody is a lot more athletic than they were in high school.

MK: Guys are a lot stronger. That is probably the biggest thing that I have noticed since being here.

TEC: What made you choose ECU over other universities?

MC: I think it was a trust thing. I had a lot of people that trust coach Herriion and the staff down here because he used to coach up at Drexel and that is how they knew him.

MK: Coach Herriion recruited me hard and I felt like that this was the best place for me.

TEC: Mike Marvin is a newcomer this year and brings a lot of excitement to the team. What do you like the most about his game?

MC: I like everything about his game. How hard he plays, how he pressures the ball. There is a lot to like about his game.

TEC: Do you guys feel any kind of special chemistry being that both of you are from the city of Philadelphia?

MC: I think the main thing we know about each other is that we are going to play hard. I think a lot of

people from our area know how hard it is and we just try to make it out of our situation and go out and play hard every single night.

MK: I feel the exact same way.

TEC: Who is your favorite athlete of any sport?

MC: Right now it has to

be Dwayne Wade.

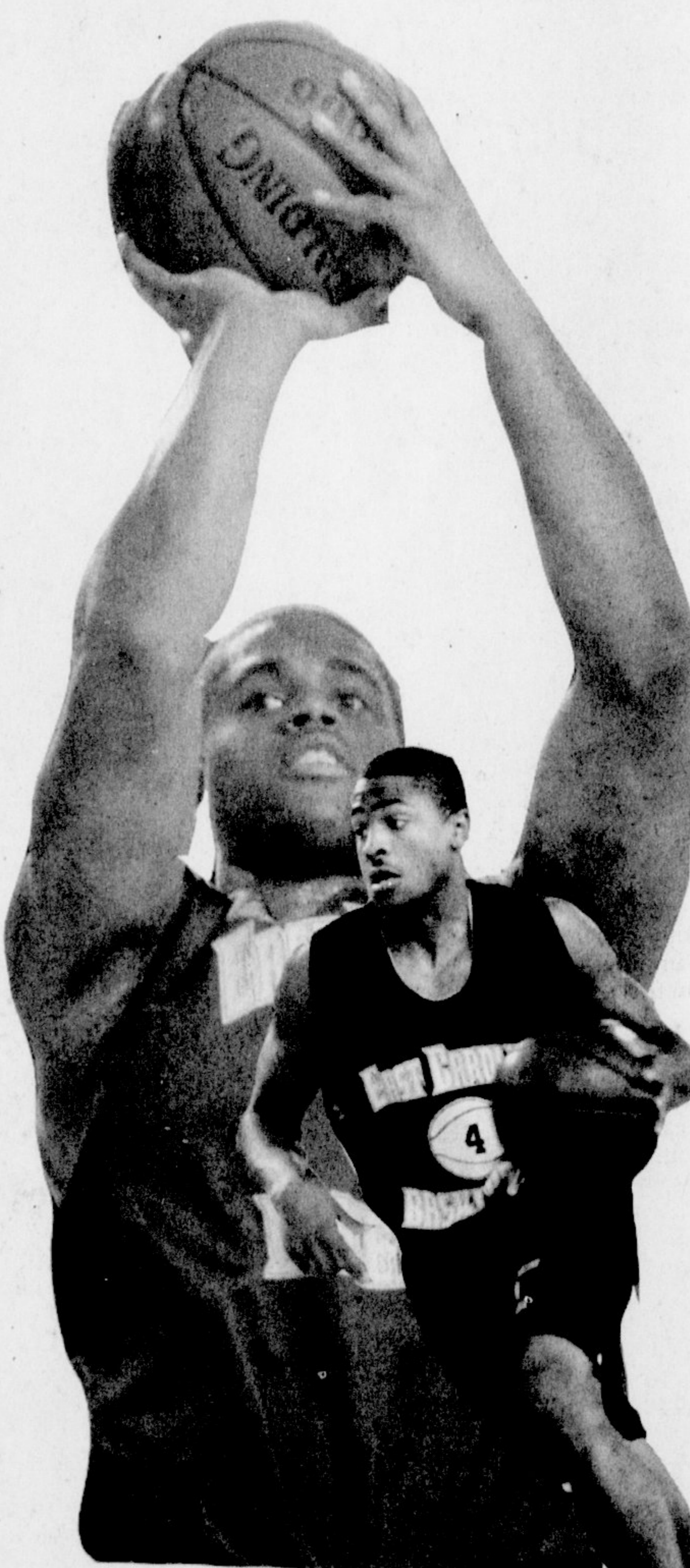
MK: Same for me.

TEC: Who is your role model?

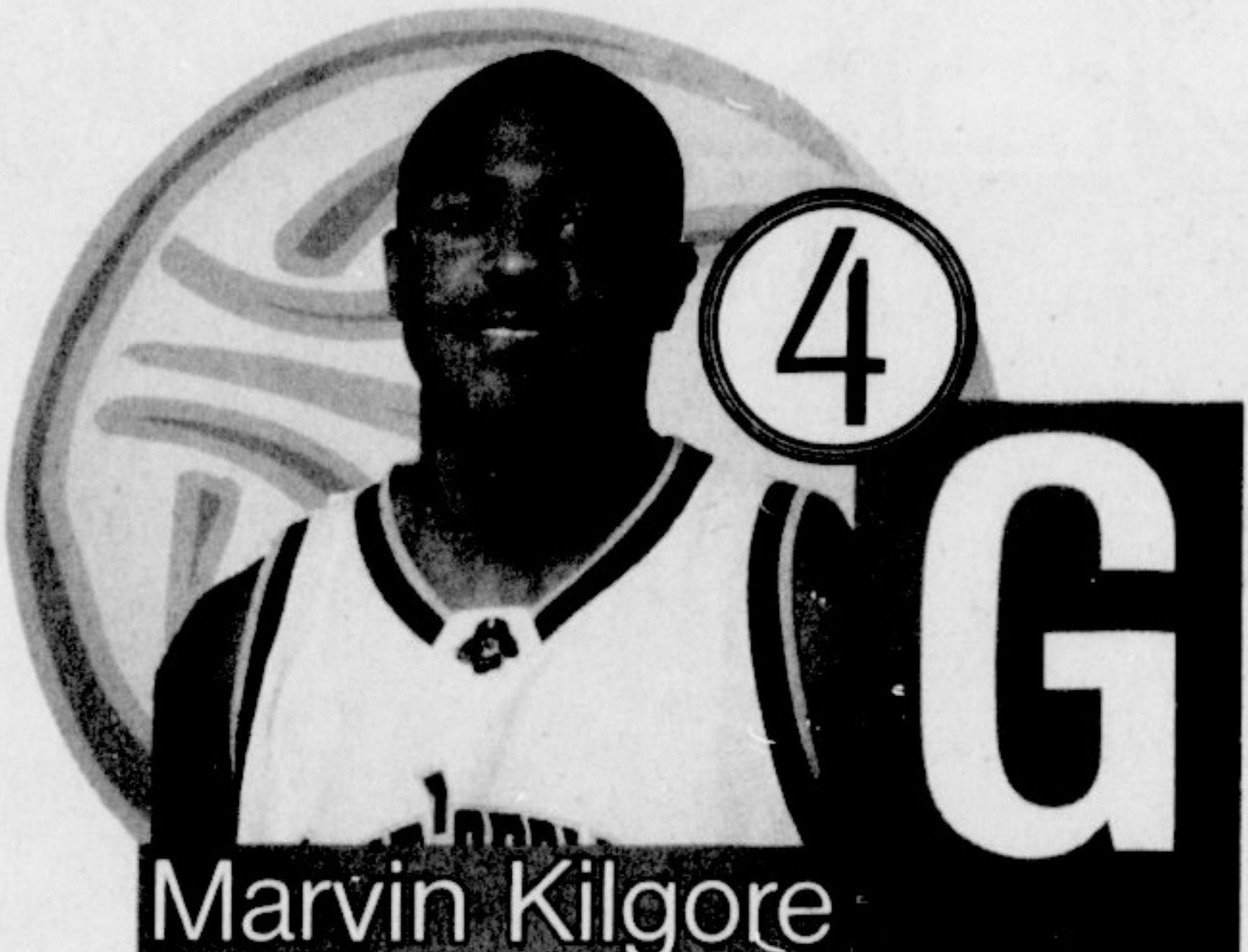
MC: My dad.

MK: My dad.

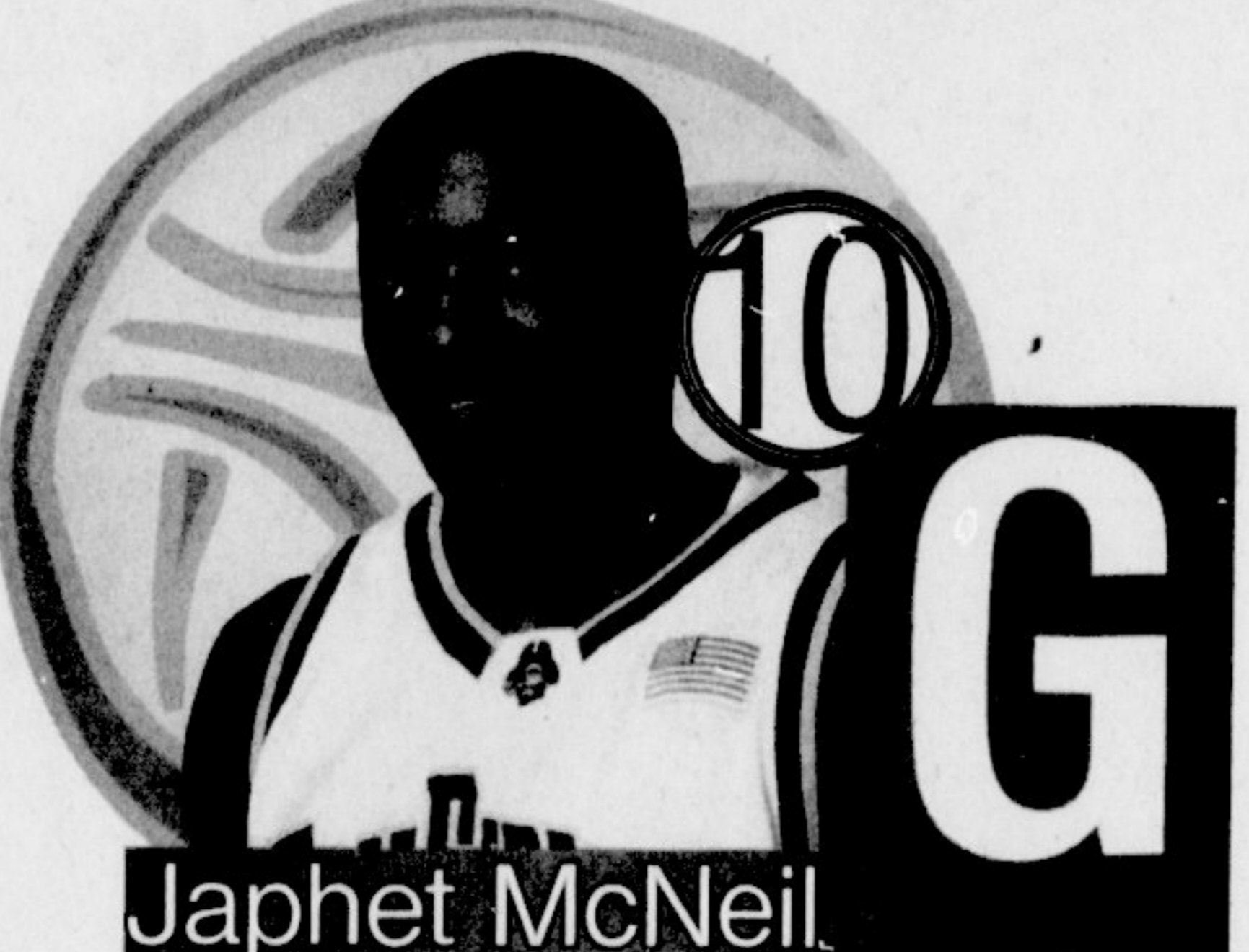
This writer can be contacted at [sports@theeastcarolinian.com](mailto:sports@theeastcarolinian.com).



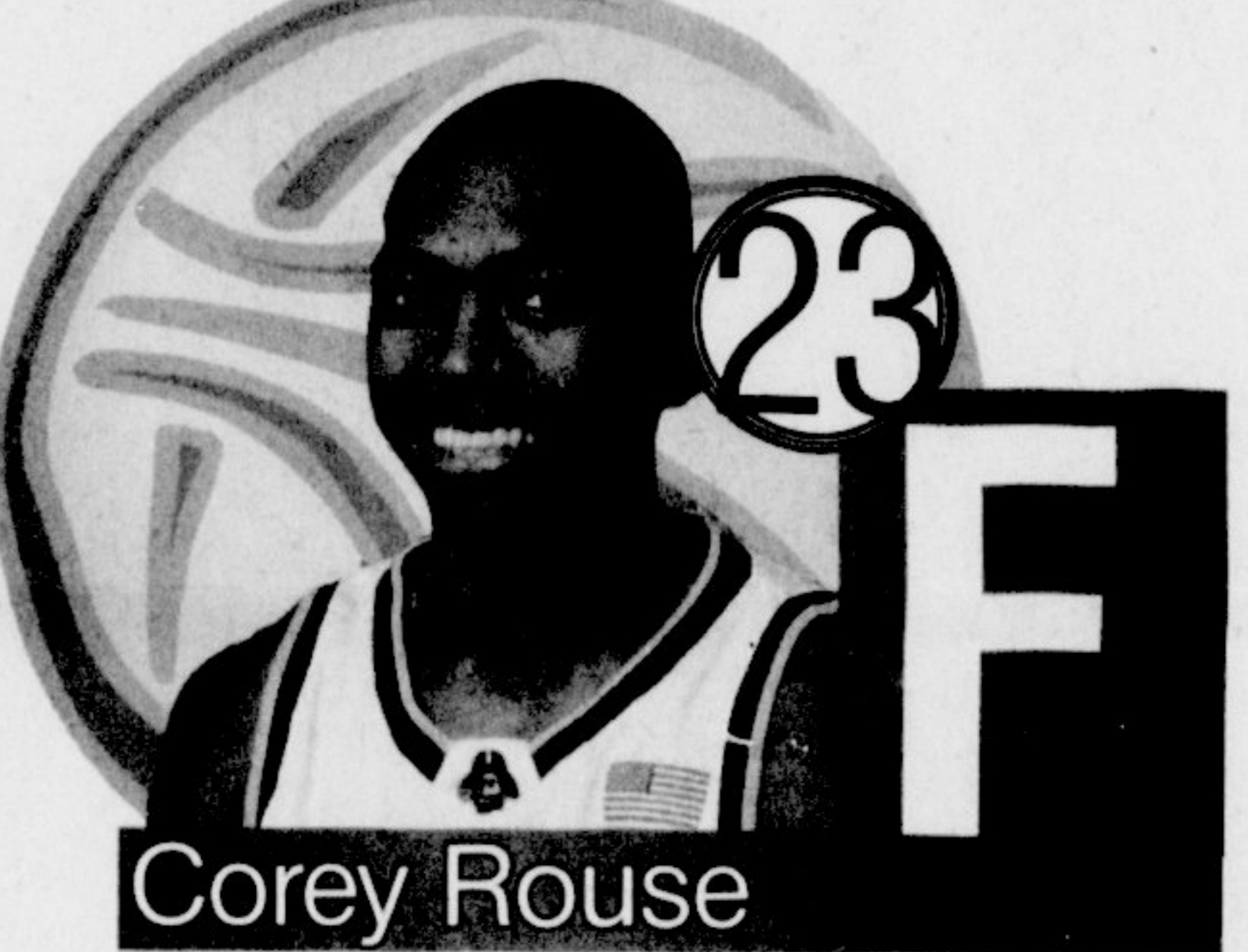
Mike Cook



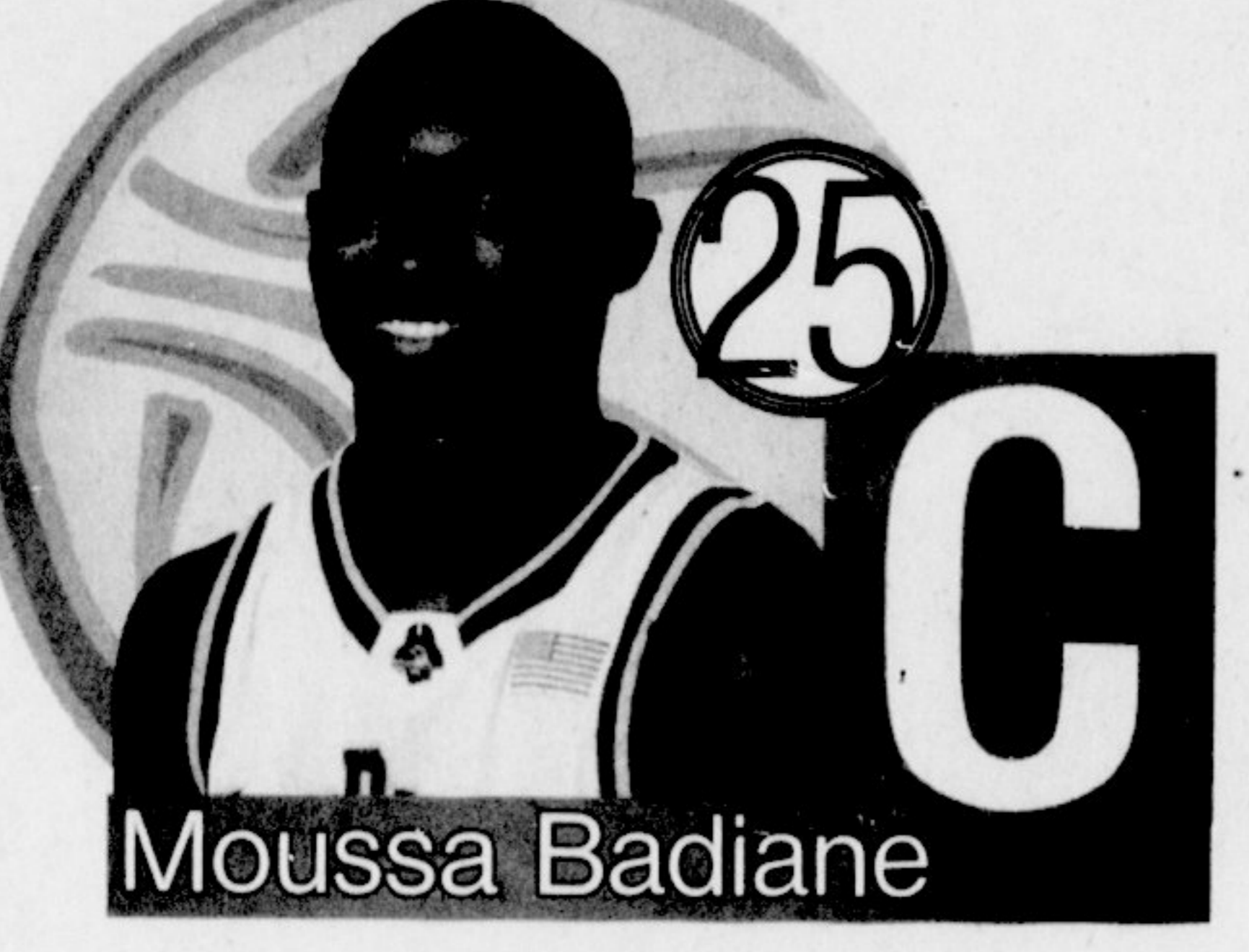
Marvin Kilgore



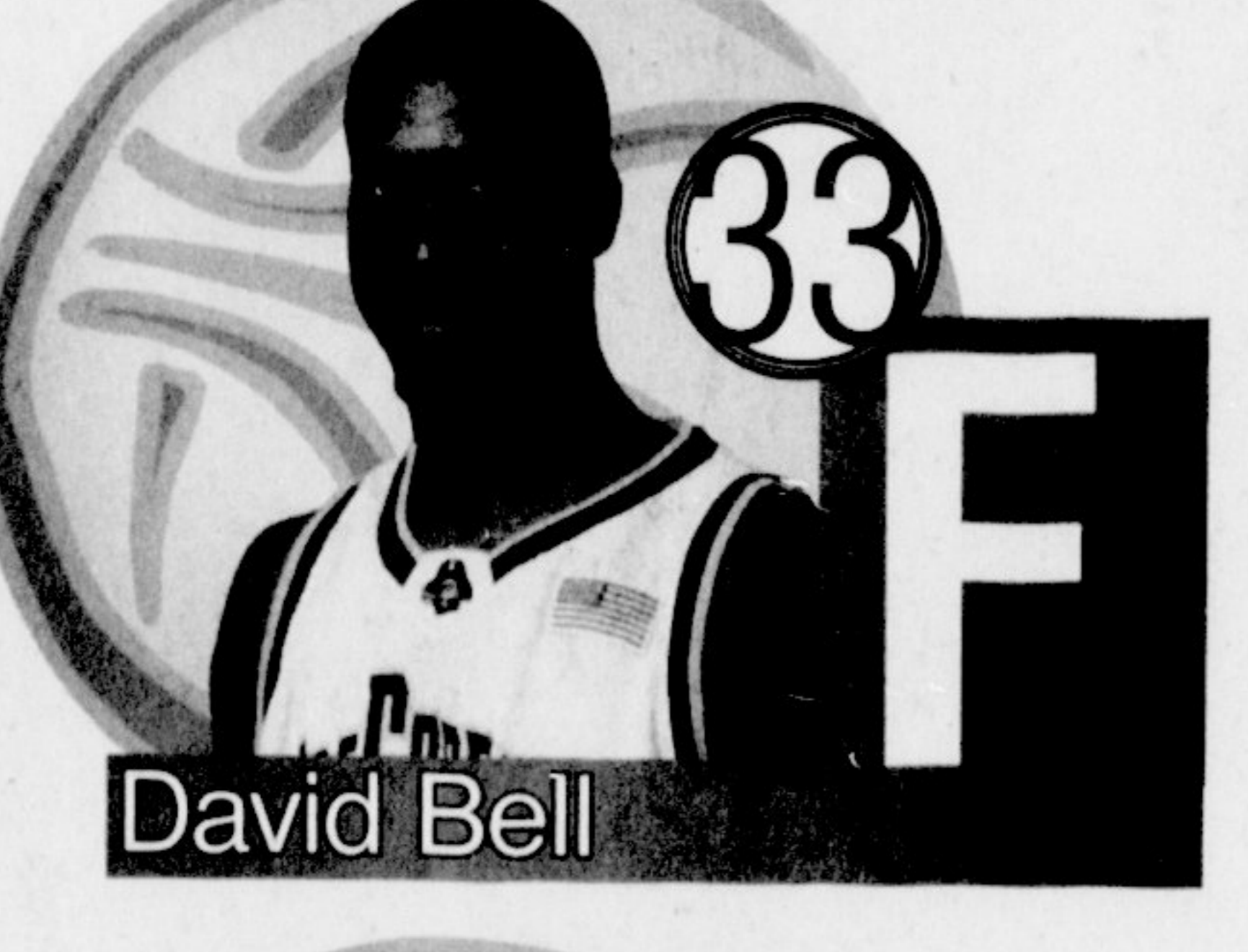
Japhet McNeil



Corey Rouse



Moussa Badiane



David Bell



Jonathan Hart

Photos courtesy of ECU SID

Bill Herriion  
coaching

TONY ZOPPO  
SPORTS EDITOR

Some people have an innate ability to coach. Bill Herriion is one of those people. He has coached basketball for 15 years and has a record of 167-77.

Herriion is the head coach of the ECU basketball team. He has coached at the college level for 15 years and has a record of 167-77.

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Japhet McNeil  
ECU Guard  
sophomore

BRENT WYNNE  
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

A coach's job is to get the most out of his players. Japhet McNeil is one of those players. He has been a guard for ECU for two years and has a record of 167-77.

McNeil is the guard for the ECU basketball team. He has played for ECU for two years and has a record of 167-77.

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# All in the Family

Bill Herrion carries the coaching gene

TONY ZOPPO  
SPORTS EDITOR

Some people are born with an innate ability to excel at a certain talent in life.

Frank Sinatra was born to sing. Audrey Hepburn was born to act. Wayne Gretzky was born to play hockey.

And almost every male in the Herrion family was born to coach basketball.

The late Jim Herrion worked as an assistant coach at Holy Cross and was the head coach at Division III Worcester Polytechnic Institute. Bill and younger brother Tom started their tutelage of the games as kids under their beloved father Jim and now have their very own head coaching positions.

Tom Herrion began coaching at his alma mater, Merrimack College, where he served as an assistant coach. He then moved on as an assistant at Providence and Virginia before being named head coach of the College of Charleston in 2002.

Bill on the other hand has held at an assistant coach spot at both Boston University and George Washington before moving on to Drexel University. In his eight years as Drexel's head coach he led the Dragons to three consecutive NCAA appearances from 1994-1996, was named the North Atlantic Coach of the year four times and compiled a total record of 167-71.

The Massachusetts native left Drexel in 1999 to come down to Greenville and take over the men's basketball program at ECU. In his first five years as the Pirates' head honcho, Herrion has taken a formerly abysmal program and transformed it into a consistent competitor in Conference USA.

The sixth-year coach enters the 2004-05 season with a record of 61-79 at ECU and may have one of ECU's most talented but inexperienced teams in a very long time.

"I really like this group of kids," said Herrion.

"A lot of people think we're young, we're inexperienced but sometimes when you have young guys, they're so innocent and don't know any better. I think the one thing with this basketball team that I've been really pleased with is how hard these kids play."

Herrion has every reason to be pleased as the Pirates, a team with a total of six freshmen and just one senior, went into the BCA Invitational two weeks ago and defeated two very experienced and athletic teams, Pepperdine and Oregon State before falling to ACC power NC State.



Herrion is teaching the game of basketball to one of the youngest teams in the NCAA.

In ECU's opening 80-58 victory over the Waves, youth and inexperience turned into big time contribution. Freshmen Tom Hammonds and Josh King combined for 25 points, including seven three-pointers while fellow freshman Jonathan Hart snatched 12 rebounds and added six points.

Hart is one of many new faces that coach Herrion and his staff are very excited to have as part of the team this season.

"We're very excited about Johnathan Hart," Herrion said.

"He's very eager [to learn] and has a great work ethic. He drives me nuts sometimes but I tell you what, he's got some things that you can't teach. He's quick, he's athletic, he's quick to the ball, he plays up on the rim and I think how much he plays is really going to be dictated by how each game plays out."

Seeing guys like Hart, Hammonds, King and Marvin Kilgore, another Philadelphia guard like ECU's standout sophomore Mike Cook, is quite a change from the past two years for Herrion.

"We're so different because we have so many young guys," Herrion said.

"I think the last couple years we were fortunate to have some experience and have some veterans in the program, but this team is so new and so young that every day we're trying to find out more about them."

In addition to all the new faces in the program, the Pirates' strengths and blueprint for success has changed rather drastically from two years ago.

Big man, Gabe Mikulas (6-8, 235 lbs.) was expected to enter the 2003-04 season as the inside leader for the Pirates but suffered a broken arm early in the year, ending both his season and college career. Teammate Eroyl Bing stepped in as the Pirates' big guy inside and collected 223 total rebounds (almost one-fifth of the team total).

This year however, much uncertainty surrounds ECU's ability inside the paint as 6-foot, 8-inch junior Corey Rouse will step into a much more involved role than in the past and transfer Mike Castro will be thrust into the division I spotlight for the first time.

"I'm not sure we're a real half-court, pound it into the post, back-to-the-basket team," Herrion said.

"We're not strong inside but we're very quick. So, for us to be effective, we have to play with great energy and enthusiasm and I think we have to really try to get offense off of our defense."

Defense is something the Pirates have done very well under Herrion so far. His simple yet suffocating man-to-man defense has forced field goal percentages of 31, 37 and 26 percent in the Pirates' three wins this season

against Pepperdine, OSU and Belmont-Abbey.

However, in ECU's two blow-out losses, they surrendered a combined 190 points.

Herrion feels that the Pirates' 'D' can be much better than it was in those two losses and knows that team speed and pressuring the ball will help this ECU team win ball games.

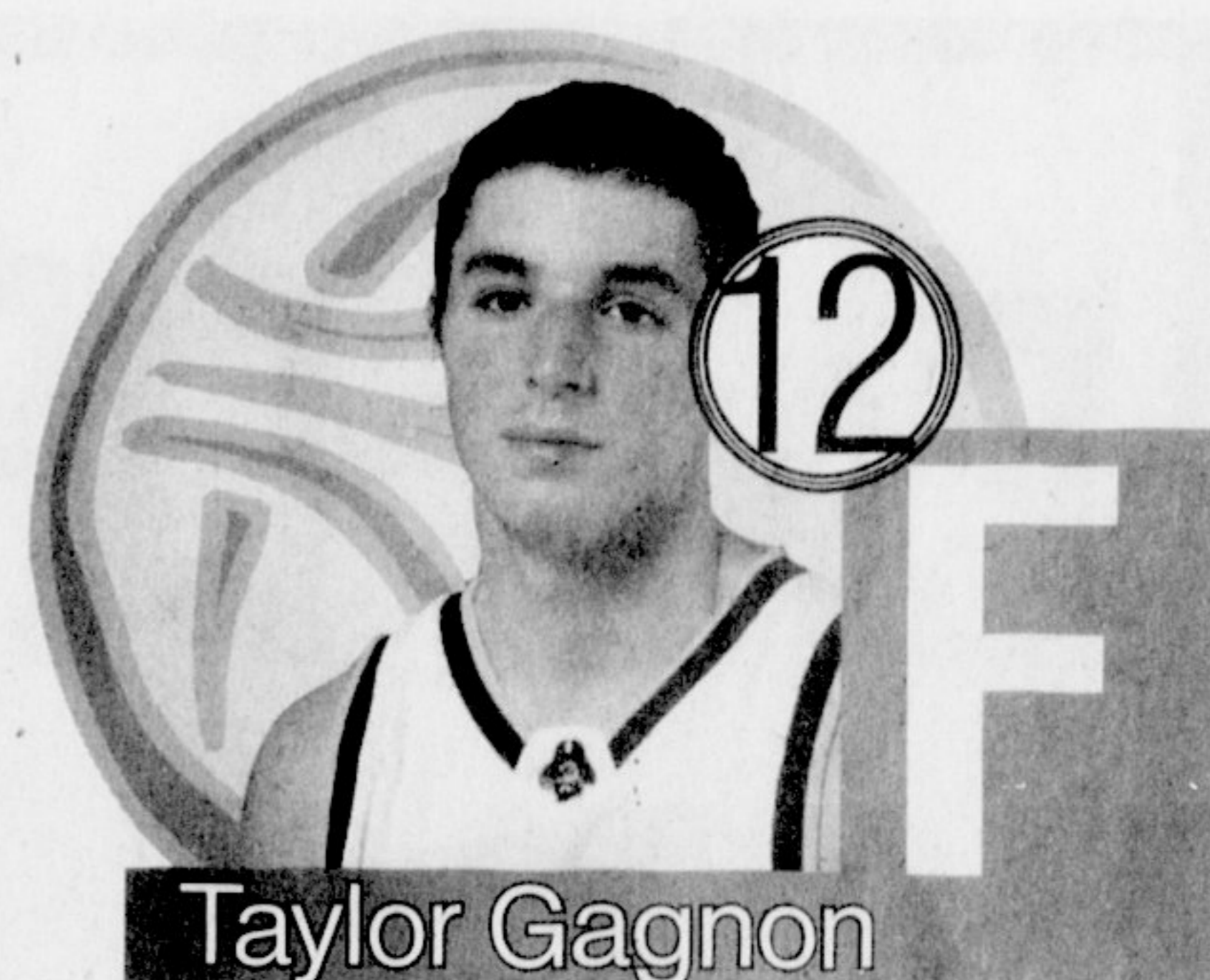
"Our overall team speed is very good and we can be a very good defensive team," Herrion said.

"After having everything go out the window on us at Gardner Webb, we came back, took a deep breath and started back at square one with our man-to-man defense. Then against Belmont Abbey, granted they're a division II team, we were very good defensively."

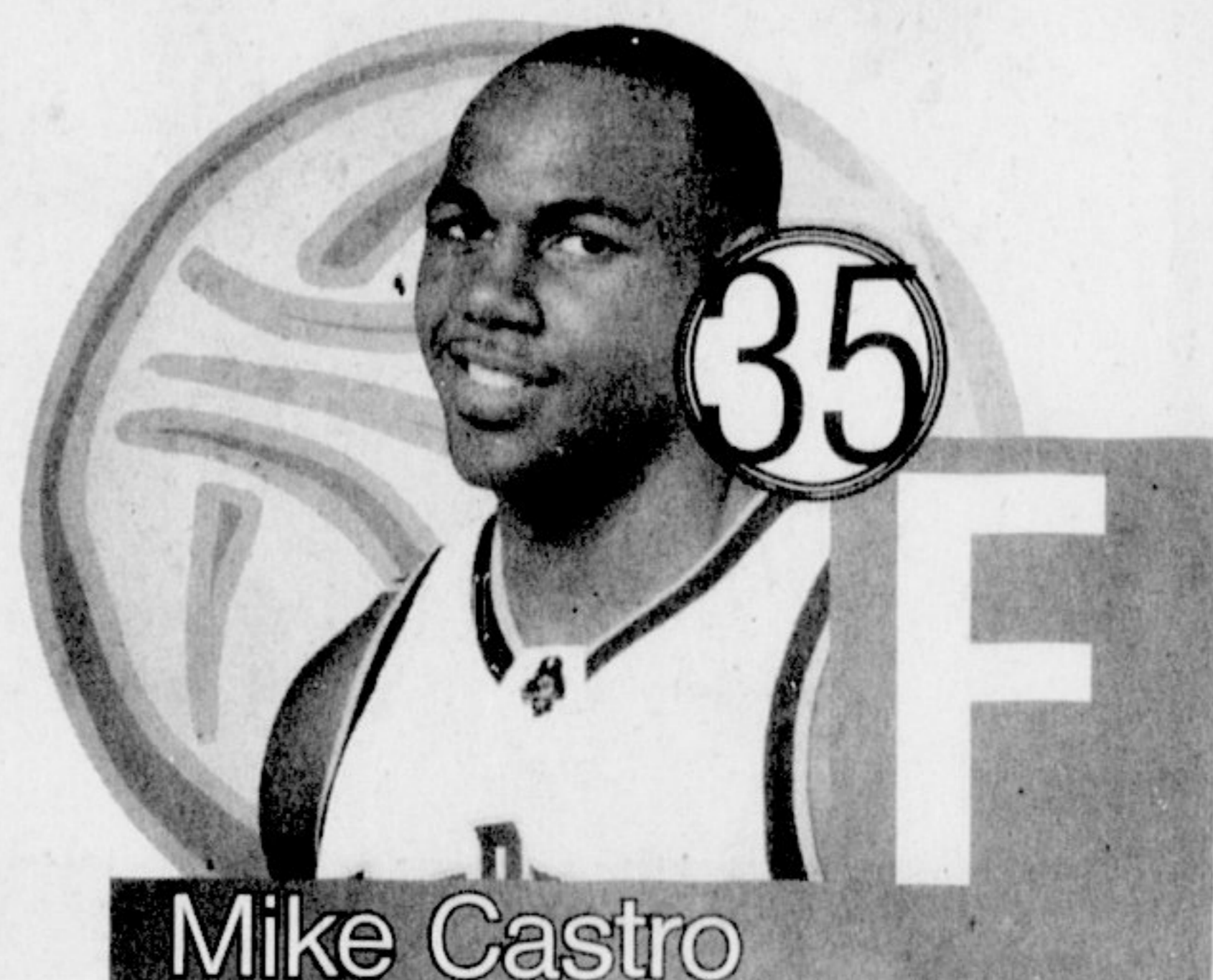
Herrion's recruitment of raw, young talent has brought excitement about basketball that Greenville hasn't seen in years. Perhaps the Pirates' biggest test of the season comes tonight against Toledo at home in Minges Coliseum. Herrion and his Pirates will be taking on a team returning all of its starters from last year.

No matter the outcome in any match-up this season for ECU, one can trust Herrion will succeed at what he was born to do - coach basketball.

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



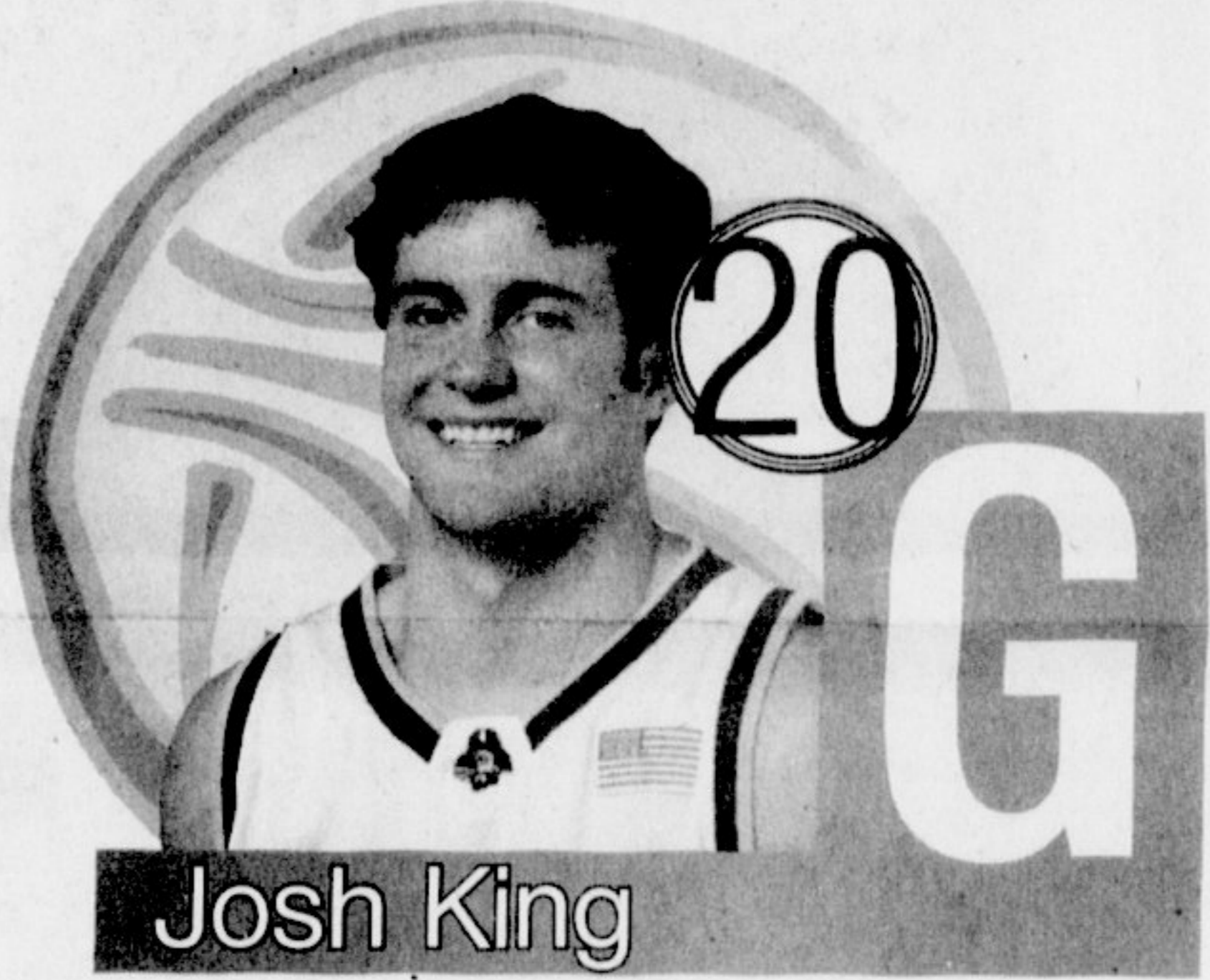
Taylor Gagnon



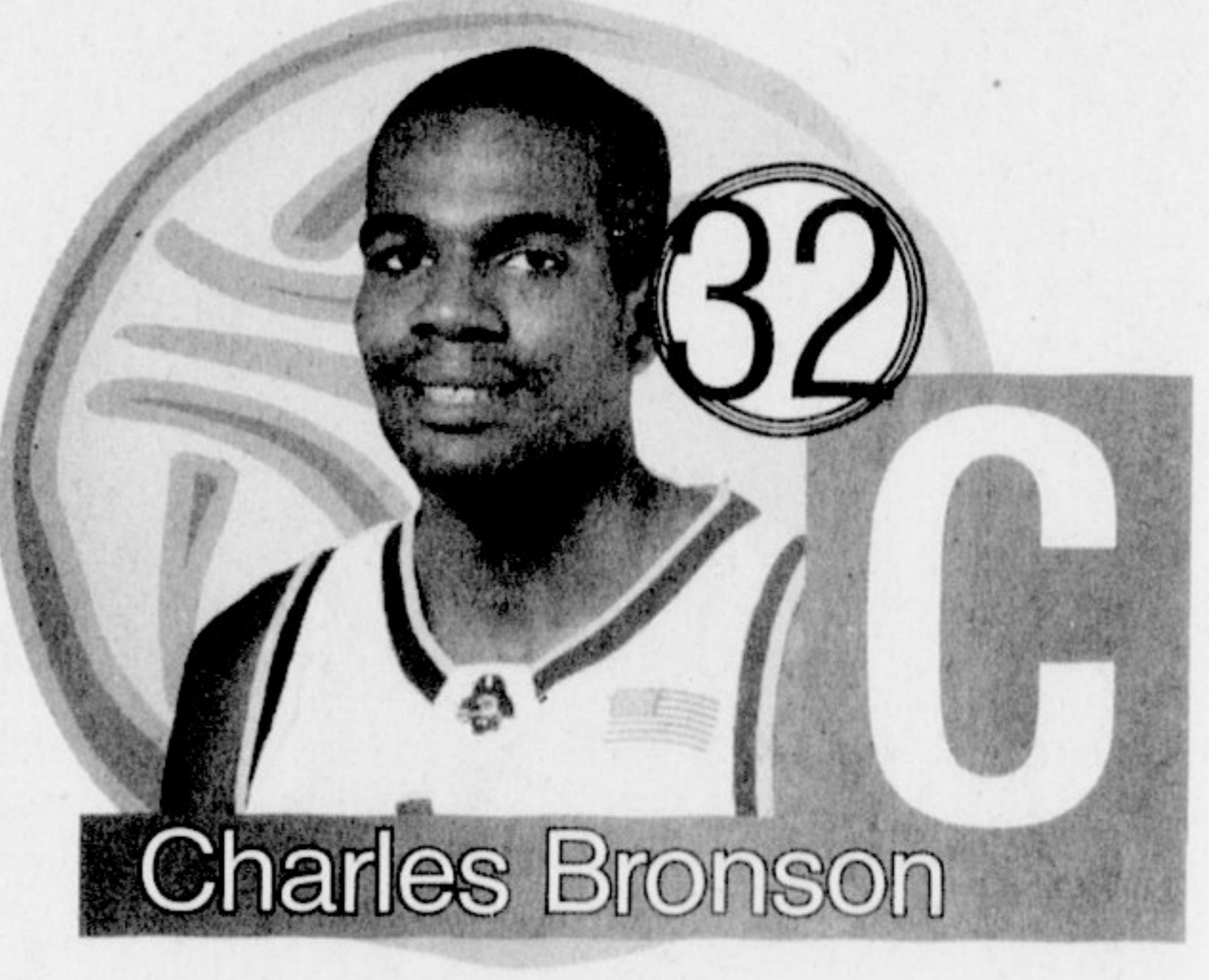
Mike Castro



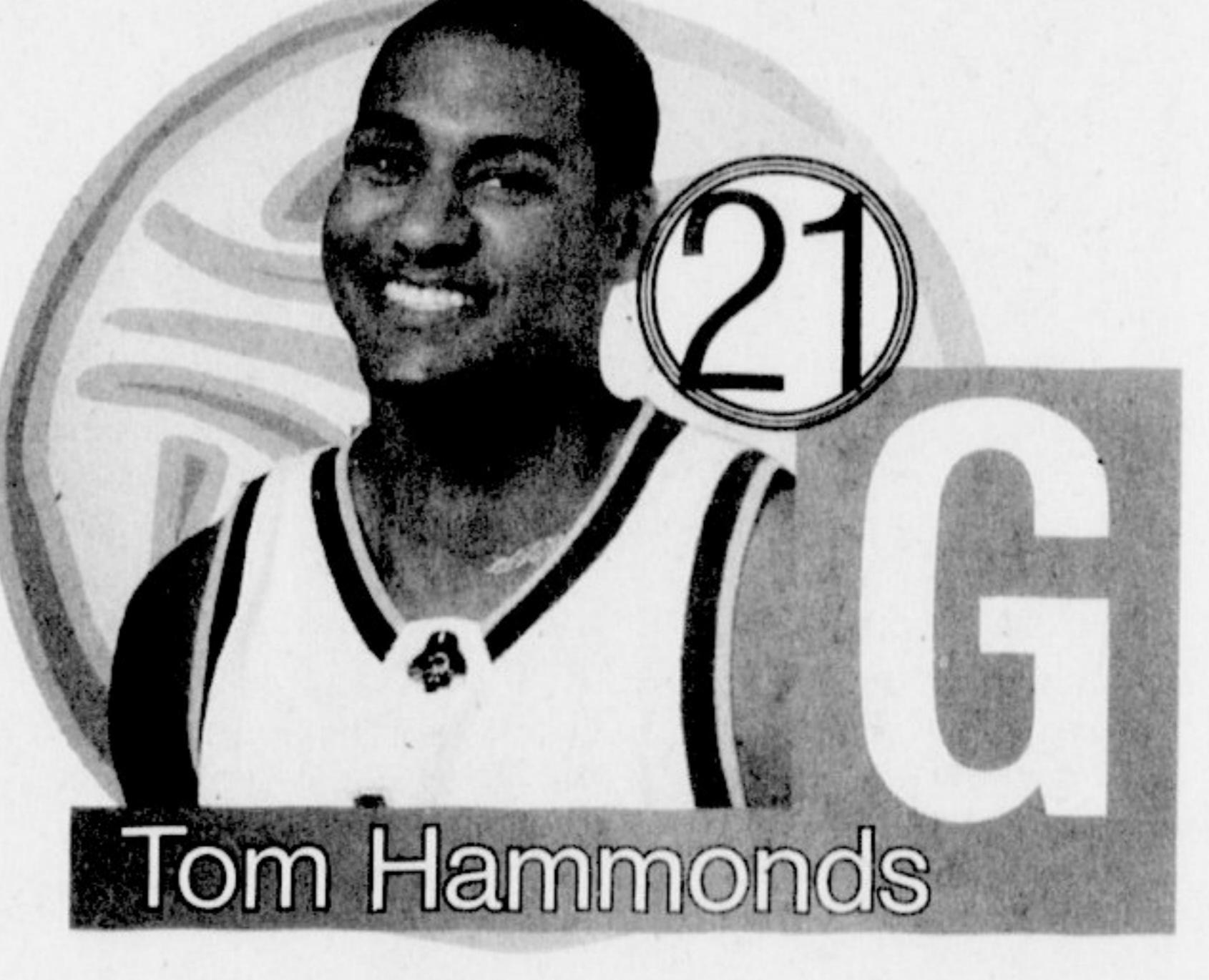
Will O'Neil



Josh King



Charles Bronson



Tom Hammonds



Bill Herrion

Photos courtesy of ECU SID

Head Coach

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

## Japhet McNeil: Lead or be left behind

ECU Guard can't afford sophomore slump

BRENT WYNNE  
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

A coach's worst nightmare heading into a new college basketball season is having question marks at the point guard position. After Japhet McNeil's sub-par freshman season, that's exactly what ECU men's Head Coach Bill Herrion had.

McNeil's percentages speak for themselves. The youngster shot only 35 percent from the floor, which included a 24 percent clip from behind the arc. He was also only 58 percent from the line in his first year campaign.

To McNeil's defense, his assist to turnover ratio was nearly two to one and toward the end of last season, his decision-making showed signs of maturity, something McNeil says he has to focus on this season.

"I think maturity is the right word for it," said McNeil.

"I'm just so much more mature this year than I was last year. I understand that I have four other teammates that I have to get involved."

I have the most important job on the team and it's up to me to make sure things are flowing and going the way we planned."

Forget about last season, it's over. The Pirates have a completely new look this year with the addition of six talented freshmen and a big-time junior college transfer, Mike Castro. McNeil's development as a player will be tested this season with so many new guys looking to him

for direction and guidance and he's ready for the challenge.

"We have so many new faces this year, it's almost overwhelming," said McNeil.

"My job is to make sure they know where they are supposed to be on the floor at all times. If they are out of place, it's on me."

Not only has Japhet grown up mentally during the off-season, the speedy guard has noticeably bulked up over the summer, something that McNeil knows will help him as the season progresses.

"I think one of the biggest changes I made as a player during the off-season was my size," McNeil said.

"I was 155 pounds last year, but I hit the weights real hard and now I'm up to 170 and my strength is so much better than it was last year."

My weight program at my high school was a joke compared to how it is here at ECU, so when I got here last year, I wasn't quite prepared for all the time in the weight room. But now I understand that it is important as a player to not only be quick and smart, but to be strong as well, and to use that strength to add to your overall game."

Although McNeil's numbers have not improved thus far from last season's statistics, most of the blame can be laid on the team's overall lack of experience. With four freshmen and a junior college transfer, seeing significant minutes for the first time at the division one level, it can be expected that most teams will not see significant improvements in individual and team play until the season allows the youngsters to come along as players at the



McNeil has the ability to play at a high level on both sides of the floor for ECU and will play a key role in the team's success.

division I level.

So, while Japhet waits for the new guys to develop, he'll continue to feed veterans Moussa Badiane, Corey Rouse and Mike Cook for now.

"I think that it's very important for me to get those guys involved," said McNeil.

"That's the most important thing that I have to do. If I don't do that, we don't win. So I have to make sure that I'm getting the ball to them and recognizing who's hot. Like for instance, when Mike makes three or four shots in a row, Mike doesn't need to come up to me and say, 'Get me the ball, I'm feeling it.' I know that he's hot and then I can drive and dish out to him to knock

down the open three.

I need to be a pass-first, shoot-second type of point guard and I think I have done a better job of this season."

Japhet's success as the point guard of this team depends so crucially on the development of his young targets. If he can orchestrate success amongst them, the direct effect of that will be a rise of McNeil's individual statistics.

This team has the potential to be clicking on all cylinders come Conference USA tourney time, and it's Japhet McNeil's team and time to lead.

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

# END-OF-THE-SEMESTER ★ BLOWOUT ★

★ ★ Relax before finals start, ★ ★  
★ ★ take a study break with ★ ★

## HOLIDAY BINGO

Tuesday Dec. 7  
9:30 p.m.

Mendenhall Cafeteria  
\$500 cash prizes

## COMEDY CABARET

Friday, Dec. 3 at 8:00 p.m.  
Mendenhall Multi-Purpose Room  
Featuring Comedian Eric Nieves

ECU students 2 free tickets with valid ECU 1 card. All others \$5.00.  
Limited Seating - get your tickets today at the Central Ticket Office.

Sponsored by ECU Student Union Spectrum Committee



rockin around the  
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Dec. 4th 8PM in the PIRATE UNDERGROUND

featuring Damn Good SuperComp The Brand



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