

FITNESS FIRST pg. 6
Getting in shape for spring

RARE TRACK MEET SUCCESSFUL pg.9
Pirates win 15 events

TODAY'S WEATHER
Showers, high of 61°
and a low of 45°



THURSDAY, MARCH 30, 2000

49 days to go until Graduation

NEWS BRIEFS

Spring forward

Remember to set your clocks one hour ahead Saturday, April 1 for Daylight Savings Time.

Fashion show

Come see the fashions of Goody's, T and T Formals, The Body Shop and Fusion tonight in Todd Dining Hall when ABE sponsors "Design of the Decade." The show begins at 9 p.m. Tickets are \$5 at the door. For further information call Kim Skinner at 328-7631.

We've got the funk

George Clinton will perform with the Parliament Funkadelic at 8 p.m. Sunday, April 2, in Minges Coliseum. Advance tickets are on sale at the Central Ticket Office in Mendenhall Student Center. Tickets for ECU and Pitt Community College students are \$15. General public tickets are \$20. Tickets at the door are \$25. For more information call 1-800-ECU-ARTS.

Musical review

"Musical Ladies" is a show that brings to mind the cabaret-style entertainment of early night clubs such as The Cotton Club and the Copacabana. This program celebrates women's gift to the American experience and starts at 7 p.m. tonight in Room 244 of Mendenhall Student Center. Public tickets are \$4.

Playhouse

"The Foreigner," a play that kept audiences laughing for two years on Broadway, will be performed in McGinnis Theatre as part of the ECU Playhouse Series. The play runs through April 4. Curtain time is 8 p.m. except for Sunday's 2 p.m. matinee. Ticket prices range from \$5 for students to \$8 and \$9 for the public. Call the McGinnis Theatre Box Office at 328-6829.

Jazz

School of Music students and teachers will jam at the popular Jazz at Night program at 8 p.m., Friday, March 31, in Mendenhall Student Center. Public tickets are \$2.50.

Nobel scientist

Dr. William Phillips, the winner of the 1997 Nobel Prize in physics will give a public lecture about research with lasers to cool gases to the coldest temperature in the universe. The lecture entitled "Almost Absolute Zero: The Story of Laser Cooling and Trapping" begins at 5 p.m. March 30, in Room BN-103 of the Howell Science Complex. Phillips says that chilled gases can be used for super-accurate atomic clocks and for new atomic lasers that manufacture tiny electronic components. Contact Dr. Orville Day, ECU Department of Physics, 328-4228.

ONLINE SURVEY

Vote online at tec.ecu.edu
Did you find your adviser to be knowledgeable and helpful during registration?

Results of last week's question:
Do you know anyone who has been the victim of sexual assault or rape?

60% Yes 40% No

Controversy stirs up SGA

Council dissolves external affairs position

Terra Steinbeiser
NEWS EDITOR

Amid the campaigning for Student Government Association (SGA) executive council, a series of disagreements between the current Student Body President and a candidate for the position has escalated into an all-out political battle for support.

The problems have recently come to a head with the recent dissolution of Michael Orr's position as executive coordinator of external affairs by the executive council, of which his roommate, Cliff Webster, is a part of.

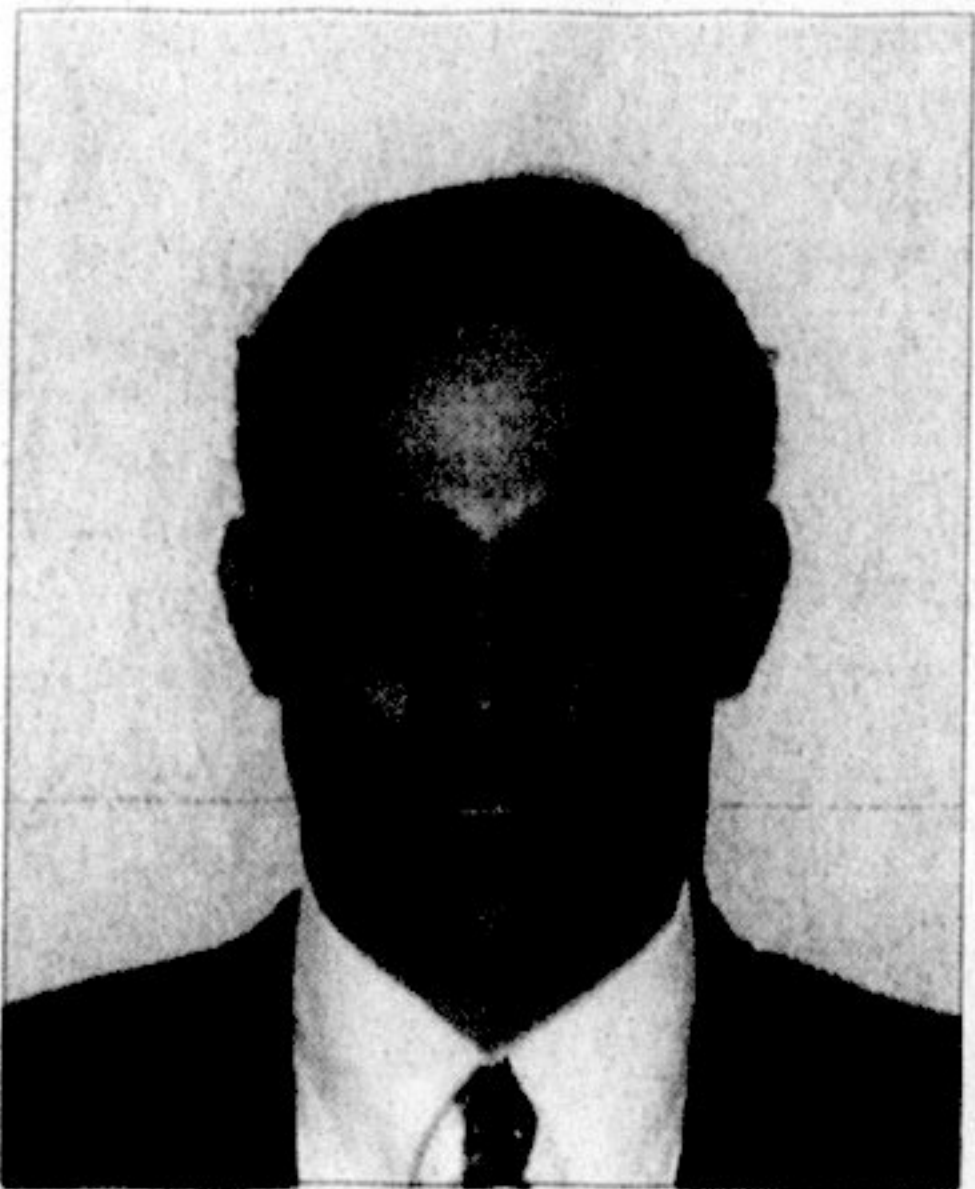
According to Webster, who presently serves as SGA president, the problems began when it was discovered that Orr and his ticket did not pay the \$10 filing fee required by the Elections Committee. Webster brought this to the attention of SGA Elections Committee Chair, Robert Kaltenschnee, who disqualified the entire ticket for failing to follow the rules. Orr said he was not aware of any such filing fee and appealed the decision to the Honor Board. The Board reversed the original decision and reinstated Orr and his ticket as candidates in the election.

"We didn't even know about the fee because we didn't receive a full copy of the election rules and I believe that was intentional," Orr said. "[The Honor Board] said we could run because the elections committee had made so many mistakes handling things."

It came to the attention of the board that the copies of the election rules were not given out before the end of the filing date. According to the SGA Constitution, candidates are only responsible for knowing the information that has been given to them before the last day to file.



Cliff Webster



Michael Orr

The second disagreement between Webster and Orr took place last Saturday, when ECU hosted the Association of Student Governments (ASG) meeting. The main focus of the meeting was to discuss issues that face the UNC System as a whole and to make nominations for the ASG president for the 2000-01 school year.

Every school is allowed to have four voting delegates who make decisions on behalf of their universities. Orr, who had been appointed as the executive coordinator for external affairs by Webster earlier in the school year was one of these voting representatives.

"His job was to be a liaison for ASG," Webster said. "He was appointed to vote and to be at meetings to help represent ECU."

Belk student alleged victim of sexual assault

Late report lacks physical evidence

Angela Harne
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Monday evening a student of Belk residence hall reported to the ECU Police Department (ECUPD) that she was sexually assaulted in her room on Saturday, March 25.

Tom Younce, of the ECUPD, said the student is a 19-year-old female, who recently decided to come forward with her case. He added that the case is currently under investigation.

"We have possible suspects from Camp Lejeune," Younce said. "We are planning to go down there later this week to further investi-

gate."

Names could not be released due to confidentiality issues.

According to Younce, no physical injuries were found and a rape kit was not administered due to the time gap between the incident and day it was reported.

Younce said an arrest cannot be made without first going to the district attorney. He said preliminary work is being done at the present time.

Manny Amaro, director of housing could not comment on the issue due to case investigation.

Watch future issues of TEC for more information on this case.

This writer can be contacted at
aharne@studentmedia.ecu.edu.

Program reaches out to elderly

Students learn leadership, professional skills

Josette LaChance
STAFF WRITER

As part of the Chancellor's Leadership Program, 30 students organized and held a dance for residents of the Greenville Place Senior Center. "The students involved had to come up with

the idea and organize it," said Patrick Charland, a participant in the program.

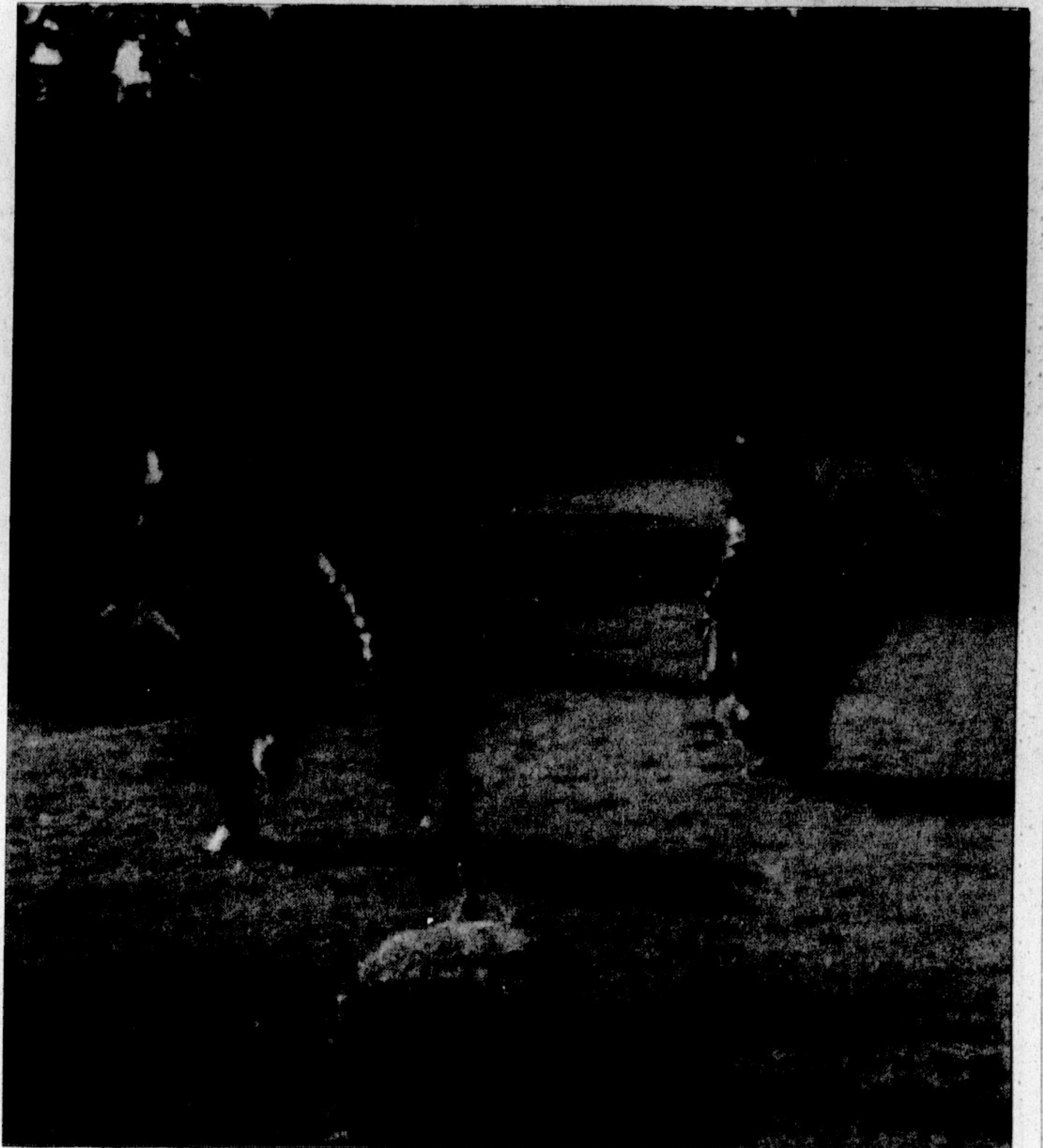
Michael Aho, the public relations chair for the program, said that the students chose to work with senior citizens because they are a group that is often overlooked by organizations who do community service projects.

Charland added that the decision to organize a dance as their service project seemed most appropriate for the personality of the group.

According to Aho, the theme of the dance was

See ELDERLY, page 3

Portrait of a powwow



Last Saturday, the Minority Coalition sponsored their annual powwow. The event, which took place at the bottom of College Hill, featured vendors and performances by Native-American dancers. (photo by Na'im Akbar)

Minutes before the meeting began, Webster pulled Orr aside and told him that his position had been dissolved and that he would not be voting with the other delegates.

Orr said that Webster offered no explanation at the time as to why the decision had been made.

Orr said that he assumed the reason his position was taken away was because Webster was planning to run for ASG president and perhaps feared that Orr would speak out against him.

According to SGA Attorney General Lindy Hemming, the SGA Constitution gives Webster

the power to appoint and cancel the duties of any non-elected position as he deems necessary.

Webster later said that the decision to eliminate the position of executive coordinator of external affairs had been made previous to the ASG meeting by the entire executive council. Webster said that Orr was originally going to be told of the decision on the following Monday, because he did not expect Orr to be at the ASG meeting.

"I was shocked that he showed up because I really didn't expect him to be there," Webster said. "He hadn't been speaking

to me, but usually he would've let me know if he was going to be able to make it or not."

The Executive Council voted to dissolve Orr's position for his "recent insubordinations" toward the Student Body President, which included some comments made in personal e-mails between the two.

At the SGA meeting this past Monday, Orr read his account of what had happened at the ASG meeting and his letter of resignation to the legislature.

Overton Harper, treasurer of

See SGA page 3

Suspect in attempted rape case arrested

Investigation over after one month

Angela Harne
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Earlier this week, a suspect in was arrested in connection with one of the cases of attempted rape that happened on campus earlier in the semester.

The suspect, non-student Terrance Wooden, was charged with attempted second-degree rape. The arrest stemmed from a Feb. 11 rape case, which occurred in a student's fourth-floor room of Clement Hall.

The victim was taken to Pitt County Memorial Hospital (PCMH) where a rape kit was administered and the evidence was then sent to FBI agencies in Raleigh.

According to Captain Frank Knight of the ECUPD, charges were based upon evidence found by FBI agents. Knight said the evidence concluded that a sexual assault did take place.

Exact information discovered could not be released due to confidentiality issues.

Knight said the victim was offered help through the dean of students and Student Health Ser-

vices.

"It is my understanding that the victim's parents have removed her from the university," Knight said.

Laura Sweet, assistant dean of Student Life could not comment regarding the victim's removal from campus.

Sweet said she acts as an advocate for female victims of sexual assault. She said that she is available to go to the hospital with victims, support them at the magistrate or District attorney's office and help them with follow-up issues.

"My main goal is to get victims counseling," Sweet said.

Sweet said some students decide to stay at the university and regain their normal lives, while others feel their lives have been too disturbed.

"We try to do what is best for the victims regarding their needs," Sweet said.

According to Knight, the ECUPD is tying up loose ends and proceeding with follow-up interviews with the victim and witnesses.

Knight said a court date for the case has not yet been set.

TEC will follow up once the case is finalized.

This writer can be contacted at
aharne@studentmedia.ecu.edu.

CRIME SCENE ACROSS OTHER CAMPUSES

March 27

Simple Assault—A student was served with an arrest warrant stemming from an off-campus incident.

Miscellaneous Call—Three students were issued Campus Appearance Tickets (CAT) for throwing water balloons out of an eighth-floor window in Greene Hall.

Attempted Suicide, Possession of Weapon on Campus—A resident of Clement Hall attempted to commit suicide by means of a gun. The gun was discharged three times, but no injuries occurred. The gun was seized and the subject was transported to Pitt County Memorial Hospital for assessment.

Second Degree Rape—A resident of Belk Hall reported that she was sexually assaulted in her room on March 25.

March 28

Harassing Phone Calls—A student reported that he and his roommate had been receiving two to three phone calls a day, where the caller says nothing since, March 1.

Attempted Second Degree Rape—A non-student was arrested for the above charge after officers concluded an investigation for the incident that occurred on Feb. 11 in Clement Hall.

N.C. State University—By this coming summer, scientists could have the map of all human genetic information.

Even with all the skepticism of future problems, the finished information is expected to promote a new age of medical research that will unravel genetic contributions to disease, eventually leading to better treatments.

As the race enters its final stages, Celera, a genetics science company located in Rockville, Md., is conducting its own campaign to map the genome. President Bill Clinton and British Prime Minister Tony Blair have expressed that it would be best for Celera and all other private companies to share their data.

According to Bruce Weir, coordinator of Bioinformatics at North Carolina State University (NCSU), the main purpose of the Human Genome Project (HGP) is an international research program designated to construct detailed genetic and physical maps of the human genome.

Due to the relentless efforts of scientists, physicians, and others sharing their information, the HGP has progressed much more quickly than was originally planned when it was formed in 1990.

"There are 23 pairs of chromosomes that form the human genome," Weir said. "Right now, 22 pairs have been completed."

However, with all parties nearing the end of a long and successful journey, Celera has become rather quiet with releasing their data. Stephanie Curtis, department head and director of graduate programs in genetics said the HGP has turned into a big intellectual property issue.

James Madison University—You might be surprised by what you don't know about affirmative action.

The federal government's Executive Order 11246 requires institutions with 50 or more employees and a contract of at least \$50,000 have an affirmative action plan.

According to James Wadley, James Madison University's affirmative action officer, JMU's Office of Affirmative Action's purpose is to look at groups of people who are traditionally under-represented and strengthen those numbers through hiring and promotion.

"It's a program to make sure those people are considered," Wadley said.

Under-represented groups are women and minorities. Federal statutes do not regard women as minorities, but women have experienced gender-based discrimination and exclusion that has sometimes hindered their progress. For this reason, women are considered "protected class" members and are "entitled to consideration of all benefits for which they are eligible."

When there is a job opening at JMU, recruitment is left to the individual departments. Departments need one or two minority members to be in compliance with government regulations.

"The first thing to attract minorities and women is to advertise well, [and] to make sure minorities see the advertisements," Wadley said.

Departments are expected to advertise the positions in directories such as Minority and Women Doctoral Directory and the Chronicle of Higher Education.

ELDERLY from page 1

'A Night on Bourbon Street,' and included activities such as pretend gambling, dancing and crowning ceremony for the king and a queen of the dance.

The Chancellor's Leadership Program is in its third year at ECU. Each session of the program runs for nine weeks.

In order to be eligible to participate in the program, students must have at least sophomore standing and be nominated by a faculty member. Once nominated, they may then apply to be admitted.

"Usually about 200 people are nominated, and about 100 people apply," said Jim Sturm, director of University Unions. "From those 100 we choose the top 60."

The main focus of the program is teaching professional skills.

"We have a variety of speakers who come and talk about professionalism, ethics and so on," Sturm said. "There's a different topic each week."

A key part of the program is the service project that the students are expected to design and implement over the span of nine weeks.

Students who participated agree that it was a great experience.

"It was great," Charland said. "At the dance I was able to push one woman around the dance floor in her wheel chair. The woman then told me that this was the best time she had ever had."

Charland then added that he believes that since he has been so blessed he should those who are not so fortunate.

This writer can be contacted at
jlchance@studentmedia.ecu.edu.

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SGA from page 1

the executive council, reiterated to the legislature that the decision had been made by the executive council and not by Webster alone. "It isn't a 'Cliff versus Mike' issue," Harper said. "The four of us [on the executive council] discussed the position that Mike held. There were some personality issues but it certainly wasn't one person acting alone."

Members of the SGA legislature who were present at Monday's meeting said they were amazed by Orr's presentation. "I was pretty much surprised by the whole thing," said David Bucci, chair of the Student Welfare Committee. "I didn't even know any of this was going on." Steve Carmichael of the Appropriations Committee agreed with Bucci. "I was surprised to hear about it because I know that they're roommates," Carmichael said. "I didn't really understand it."

Dr. Ronald Speier, dean of students and SGA adviser, said that because Orr's position is one that is appointed, it was a fair decision. "It is the student government association, and the students make all of the decisions as they see fit," Speier said.

Student attempts suicide in Clement

Firearm, alcohol involved

Angela Harne
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

A student attempted to commit suicide with a .22-caliber revolver Monday evening in her Clement Hall room.

According to Tom Younce of the ECU Police Department (ECUPD) the student, an 18-year-old female, threatening to shoot herself. He added that alcohol was involved.

Younce said other residents

in her room wrestled the gun away from her.

"During the struggle the gun was discharged three times," Younce said. "Thankfully no one was injured."

The student was transported to Pitt County Memorial Hospital (PCMH).

According to Younce, the student is in the psychiatric ward at PCMH for assessment.

Manny Amaro, director of housing could not comment due to confidentiality issues.

This is the first reported case this semester involving an attempted suicide with a firearm.

"We have not seen a case involv-

ing a weapon in a long time," Younce said.

Stephanie Griffin, ECUPD sergeant of Crime Prevention said the majority of suicide cases ECUPD handles involves attempts to overdose on pills.

"This case is definitely the first one we have handled involving a weapon in the past five years," Griffin said.

This writer can be contacted at aharne@studentmedia.ecu.edu.

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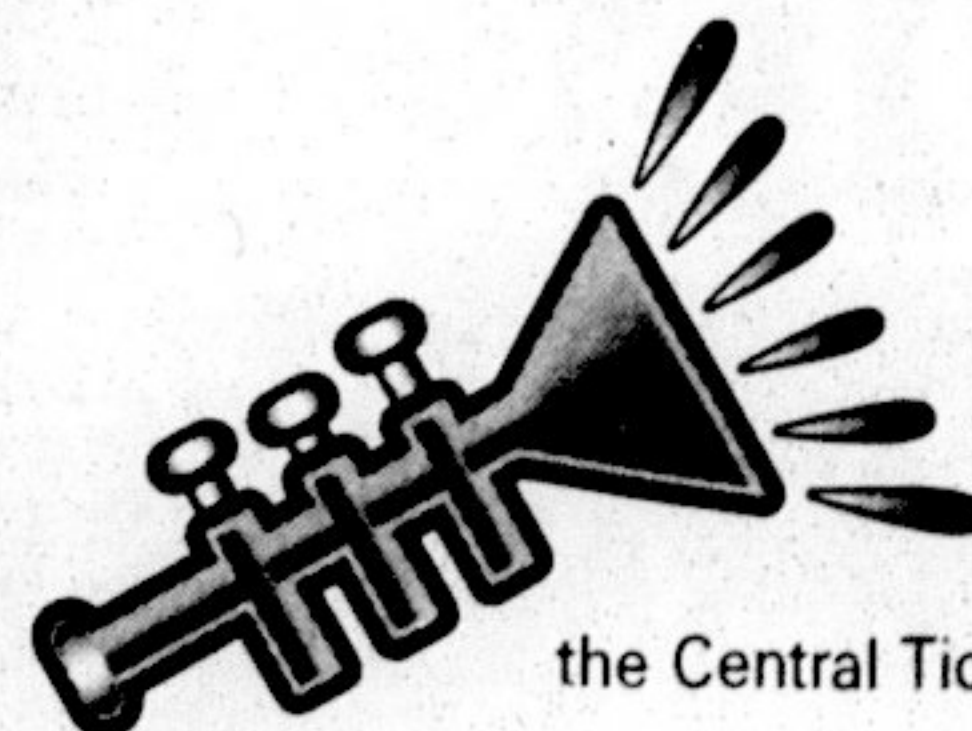
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...To Chill With Sisters of Soul

APRIL 1 AT 10 P.M. IN THE BRICKYARD
Imani, an R & B/Soul female quartet, opened for Boyz II Men and TLC and now they are coming to ECU to put some soul back in our step. No tickets needed - free admission.

...To Get Some Work Done



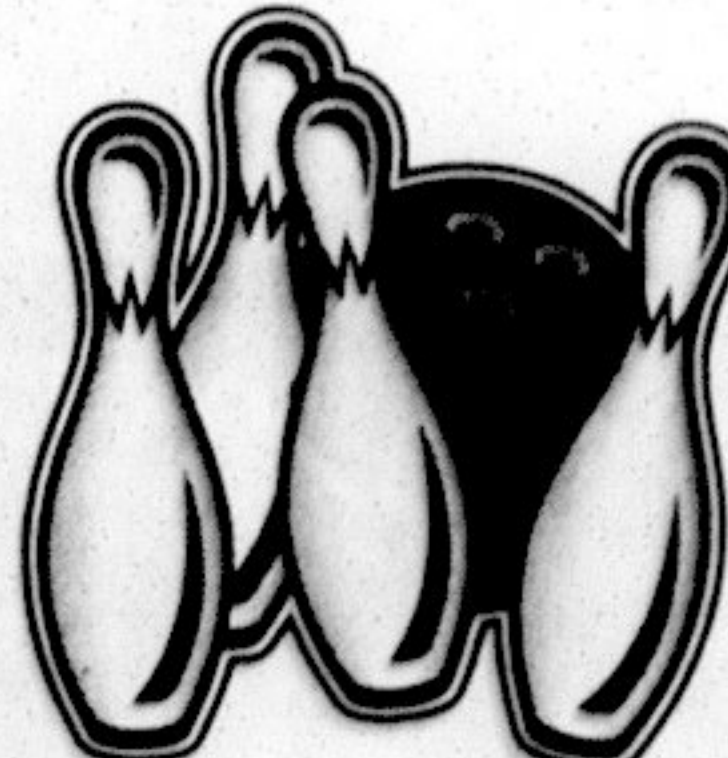
Trying to get those last minute projects done before the end of the semester? Feel like you have too much to do and not enough time to do it? Don't panic. Get it all done in the Mendenhall Student Center Computer Lab, located on the ground floor. We've got Pentium-based computers, Power Macs, color and laser printers, a scanner, and various software programs to satisfy your homework needs.

...To Communicate With Commuters

APRIL 3 AT 6 P.M. IN THE ADULT AND COMMUTER STUDENT SERVICES OFFICE, LOWER LEVEL MSC
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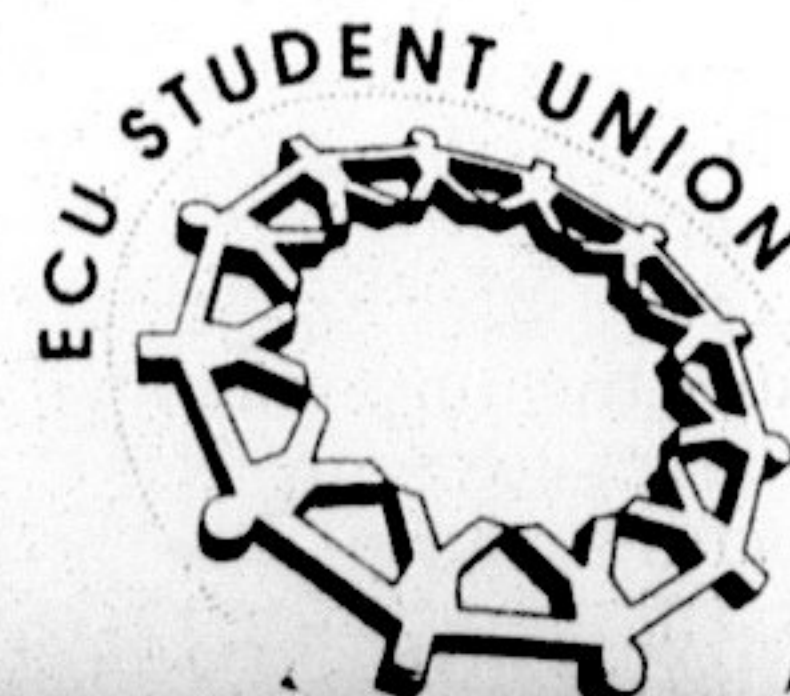
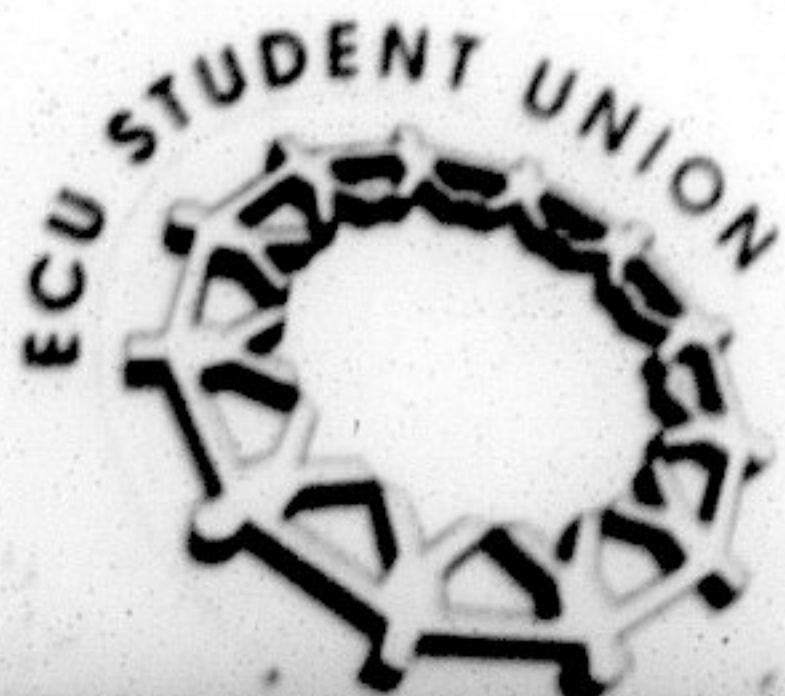
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OUR VIEW

The fact that both Webster and Orr happen to be roommates has caused many to speculate that this may be the main reason for the dissolution of Orr's position and the back and forth squabbling between the two.

The current battle between SGA President Cliff Webster and Michael Orr, the former executive coordinator of external affairs of the president, has recently caused great controversy in the student body legislature. First, Orr claimed that he did not receive all of the rules about filing fees. Then, accusations of Orr's insubordinations toward Webster were actually excerpted from Webster and Orr's personal e-mails. The fact that both Webster and Orr happen to be roommates has caused many to speculate that this may be the main reason for the dissolution of Orr's position and the back and forth squabbling between the two. We at TEC find it unprofessional and childish that both Webster and Orr find it necessary air their dirty laundry out for the whole student body and administration to see. Not to mention, this squabbling will undoubtedly put a negative damper on the upcoming SGA elections April 5. We believe that these two student leaders should aside put their personal differences for the sake of the university. We as a student body can only continue to have faith in our student government leaders so long as we feel that ultimately the choices and actions they make while in office are made with one thing in mind: the students.



OPINION COLUMN

Russians elect Putin; Alan Keyes fourth

Mark Larado
POLITICAL COLUMNIST

Some of you may have asked, "So, where did Mark's column go last week?" Believe it or not, I DID write a column for *The East Carolinian* last Thursday, but it was deemed too inappropriate to be published by this paper. I'm not complaining because they were right and I was wrong. You see, I used words like "crack," "ass," "Valtrax" (the drug my transvestite uses), "bitch," and the most notorious words of all, "Pat Buchanan." If you correctly string those words together you can easily get a sentence that would cause great controversy. Of course, I would string a sentence for you using those words, but you wouldn't be able to read my column. So, I want to apologize to those who were hurt by my column. I apologize to my editors who had the unfortunate task of reading my column, to the 5-year-old school girl I made cry, to the 20 or so Asians I fraudulently deported, and most of all, I'm sorry to all of you for being the reason why the

show "Titus" is still on the air. With all that off my chest, let's get back to business. For the second time ever, Russia, the diet cola of democracy, went into the voting booths to cast their ballot for president. The top contender was Vladimir Putin, the acting president after Boris Yeltsin left for rehab, permanently. Putin's chief rival was nobody. No, seriously, nobody. Putin's campaign was fearing that most Russians never heard of him; if he didn't achieve over 50 percent of the vote, by Russian law, nobody would be declared the victor and they would have to vote again. I wouldn't laugh though. Bill Clinton only got 42 percent of the vote back in 1996. If the U.S. had the kind of law like the one in Russia, it would probably take years for us to elect an official. In this day and age of the third party, Washington outsiders, and Tinky Winky, obtaining more than 50 percent of the popular vote in the presidential election is just as unlikely as Pat Buchanan getting his head out of his butt. I would have said "ass" instead of "butt," but I'm trying to stay as close to uncensored as possible.

This writer can be contacted at mlarado@studentmedia.ecu.edu.

LETTER TO EDITOR

Office of chancellor should be restructured

Dear Editor,
Being the creative person I am, I have decided to promote a new solution to the majority of problems on campus. My plan would dissolve and restructure the office of the chancellor. Many universities, including University of Maryland at College Park and the Georgia Institute of Technology, operate under the control of a president and provide sufficient reason for ECU to change in that direction. A new restructuring of this office would revitalize the university and be cause for the multitudes to celebrate. The current organizational structure enables the chief officer to conduct himself like a tyrant. Careers are threatened on a daily basis if strict obedience to his legacy is not carried out. My plan would eliminate these dreadful occurrences from repeating in the future and would provide a healthy environment for all to thrive in. Our new president would have all of the prior obligations including no less than three new ones. First of all, our new president would be terminated if his/her loyalty ever falls under question, therefore eliminating any past problems we have encountered here at ECU. Secondly, the president must absolutely be

able to work in agreement with staff, faculty and students without being intimidating in nature. This most likely means a person of average height and stature would occupy the position. Furthermore, a true measurement of ability could be assessed if we eliminate every dictator-like quality including excessive height. Also, more opportunities for women would result if these requirements were met. Lastly, our new president would have to be respectful of all members of the ECU community including housekeeping and student leadership. A leader who does not understand the hardships of his constituents should not be considered competent to hold this office. Our university has been subjected to many changes with no consideration given to the effects on its individual members. I am absolutely certain a restructuring from chancellor to president would solve the majority of problems at ECU. Every member of the university will benefit if these ideas become a reality. All of us deserve better treatment than we have gotten under the current leadership. Go Pirates!
Jonathan L. Huggins
Loyal and concerned alumnus
Class of 1998

LETTER TO EDITOR

Universities take action against tuition hikes

Dear Editor,
Perhaps it is time for ECU, N.C. State and Carolina students to put aside our differences and get together over a very disturbing issue: tuition increases. Our illustrious state legislature has forgotten what is mandated by law in the N.C. Constitution—that a college-level education be as close to free as possible. The legislature, over the past few years has irresponsibly cut taxes (and funding for the UNC system at the same time). Now, because of that irresponsibility and mentality that a college education is not worth the state's expense, we are forced to ante up even more beginning in the fall. I am very disturbed by the fact that we will now be funding faculty raises out of our pockets in the form of a \$300 tuition increase. Now don't get me wrong, I don't begrudge the faculty a pay level equitable to similar universities, I just don't feel that it should come at the expense of the students. All this is because our state government

seems to indicate that we the students, the faculty and the universities are not worth the investment that is required by law. Perhaps it is time for the heads of the universities and their respective SGAs to meet and discuss what should be done to inform the legislature (and the BOG) that this situation is unacceptable. One possibility that comes to mind is a class-action lawsuit with the N.C. legislature as the defendants. The intent of such a suit would be to bring back equitable funding to the UNC system, so that the students are not funding every building and landscaping project, as well as the over due and well-deserved faculty raises. Think about it, everyone. We are due the respect of the legislature, not vice versa, and they have been ignoring us as a system for far too long! I don't know about you, but I can't afford to keep paying tuition increases every year because the government keeps raising it, while at the same time cutting funding.

Galen Brinn

LETTER TO EDITOR

Muscles don't come overnight

Dear Editor,
Well, it's been two weeks since Spring Break ended and I can say I'm glad. I can finally go to the gym and work out without 5,000 people in there. Before Spring Break this was merely impossible. You had almost every idiot on campus trying to get big and buff or small and petite for Spring Break. You all know who you are. You went in the gym before break trying to get fit, not having a clue what you were doing. Oh yeah, you haven't been to the gym since Spring Break. Well, you're the people who annoy me to no end. All you did was cluster up the gym, jumping from machine to machine preventing those of us who had a clue what we were doing from com-

pleting our regular routine. Basically, what I'm saying is to stay out of the gym unless you're really trying to make a change. Stay at home and do sit-ups or something, but don't waste my time. For all of you who don't know any better, you can't get physically fit in a week! It's impossible. I hate to break it to you, but muscles aren't like your fake tan, they don't come in a couple of days. Well, I guess I'll see all you hard core gym addicts before Spring Break next year. You know, when you're gonna try and work off your beer gut again.

Allison Turnbag
Fitness major

LETTER TO EDITOR

ECU needs to get priorities in order

Dear Editor,
The constant search for a resident parking space on campus that is even remotely close to their hall is ridiculous. The university seems to have its priorities reversed. Are we not the customers and the consumers of this university? Should we not be the first priority of this institution? What reasoning is involved when deeming that staff have a greater priority over the students of this university when parking spaces are allocated. Residents and staff both pay \$120 for a parking sticker, yet the majority of the central and west campus spaces, where we reside, are re-

served for staff. Would you like it if I parked in your driveway simply because my place of work was next door? That's essentially what the administration of this university is allowing to happen. ECU is essentially a business like all others. What other business would consistently engage in the practice of dissatisfying its customers and expect to stay afloat? Do not misunderstand me. I am not bashing the educational quality of this school, but the selfish policies of the administrations that are in effect.

Keven Fox

FEATURES BRIEFS

Super hero Origins II

Captain America
Steve Rogers was born on July 4, 1917 in New York City to Joseph and Sarah Rogers. Like the poster-child for the "before" pictures in Charles Atlas ads, he grew up frail and sickly. His father died in 1920, and his mother in 1934. By 1940 Steve was an aspiring artist, subsisting by painting murals on subways for the Works Progress Administration.



Steve was horrified by the Nazi atrocities depicted in newsreels, and tried to enlist in 1940. He was judged "4F" by the examination board, and he was rejected. He was then recruited by General Chester Phillips for a special program called Operation Rebirth.

Steve underwent months of tests and training, and was finally injected with the Super-Soldier formula, then subjected to an exotic radiation treatment. The experiment worked; the combination of formula and radiation treatment combined to artificially bring and maintain his body at the highest possible peak of human development. Steve became instantly stronger, more agile and faster than any Olympic athlete. The treatment also increased his endurance and also removed fatigue-producing poisons from his system, making him virtually tireless. However, a Nazi spy had gained access to the experiment observation gallery. The spy shot Dr. Abraham Erskine, the inventor of the process, and was himself accidentally killed by Rogers. Over the next week, Nazi spies executed and/or interrogated all of the remaining scientists on the project.

Steve was given the costume and name of Captain America to serve as a symbol, an embodiment of all of the virtues which make the United States great. He was specifically designed to counter the terror of the Nazi master-agent, the Red Skull. He was initially based at Camp Lehigh, where he met Bucky Barnes. Bucky discovered his secret and became his partner.

Scarlet Witch

Wanda is the daughter of Magneto and a woman named Magda. She and her twin brother Pietro were born at Wundagore Mountain, the home of the High Evolutionary, after Magda fled Magneto. Magda disappeared after her children were born, leaving a note explaining that she feared her husband might discover her and her children. Bova,

a woman evolved from a cow by the High Evolutionary gave the children to Robert Frank (the original Whizzer) whose wife, Madeline (Miss America), had died in childbirth. Bova told him that they were his children. Frank, learning that his wife had died, fled in grief. The High Evolutionary gave the children to a gypsy couple, Django and Marya Maximoff.

As Wanda and Pietro grew they discovered their mutant abilities. They were soon driven from their camp when enraged villagers attacked the gypsies. They wandered Europe until Wanda accidentally set fire to a house. The townspeople descended on them only they were rescued by Magneto. Magneto forced them to serve as members of his Brotherhood of Evil Mutants, but when the Stranger banished Magneto from Earth they left the group and petitioned membership with the Avengers. Many of the charter members of the Avengers wanted to step down at that time so they, along with Hawkeye, were added to the group.

Wanda gained greater control of her hex powers after studying with the true witch Agatha Harkness. She also met, fell in love and married the synthezoid call the Vision. She and the Vision stayed with the Avengers for a few years, battling foes such as Ultron and Korvac, before eventually buying a house and retiring from active duty.

Spiderman

The origin story is taken directly from the first issue of the Spiderman comic series.

Sometimes the most extraordinary things have the most ordinary beginnings for example: Peter Parker was a normal high school student, loved dearly by the uncle and aunt who raised him. But while he excelled in science, his accomplishments were often overshadowed by his innate shyness.

It was, however, that same devotion to science that was to bring about a monumental change in the boy's life! For one day, at an atomic energy demonstration, a tiny spider absorbed a fantastic amount of radiation—and in sudden shock, bit the nearest living thing.

Using his technical ingenuity, young Parker developed devices to "spin" his own sticky webbing. And then, after designing a suitably theatrical costume, he set out to take show business by storm—as the SPIDERMAN!

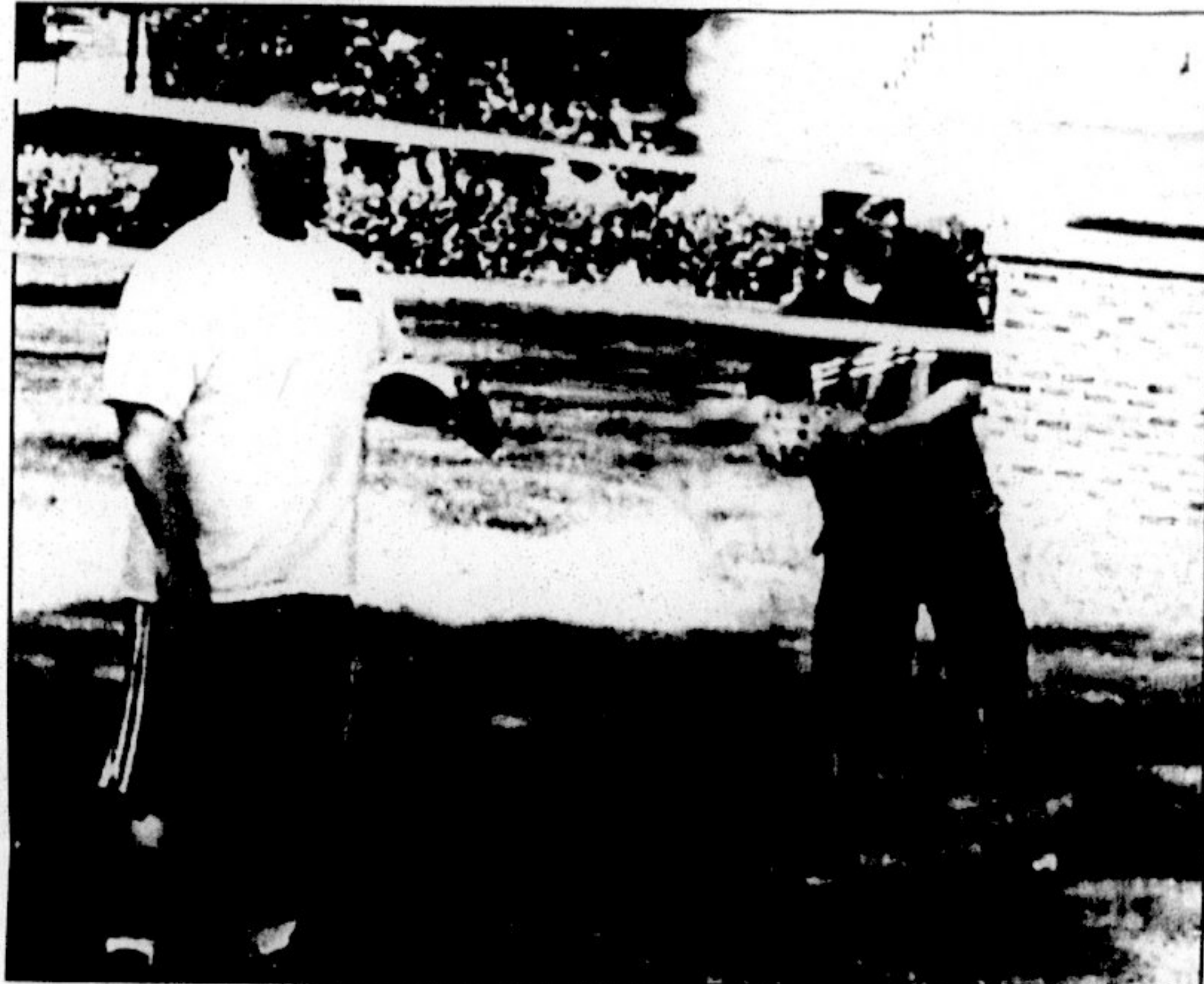


SPRING INTO PHYSICAL FITNESS

Getting started and keeping motivated, keys to healthy lifestyle

Maura Buck
FEATURES ASSISTANT EDITOR

It's that time of year again. Spring is upon us a season full of flowers, sunshine and of course females frantically searching through the nearest J. Crew catalog for "the suit" of the year. Oh and let us not forget the males that feverishly flock to the gym in hopes of toning up a bit before hitting the beach for a little sand volleyball. There are a number of ways to incorporate spring as well as the nice weather into an old or non-existent exercise regiment.



John Marsh and Black Martin, freshmen, play a little baseball and keep in shape while having fun. (photo by Garrett McMillan)

"One thing that students can do [in spring] is take advantage day light savings," said Mike McCammon from the department of health and human performance. "As a result, it allows the student with limited time the advantage of having some extra time to fulfill an exercise plan."

Many students tend to be a bit apprehensive when it comes to starting a fitness schedule, however, there are a number of ways to conquer the stress that goes along with putting such a plan into action. According to McCammon, college students are typically able to exert enough energy to begin and follow through with an exercise plan.

"To aid in the [start-up] process, one may consider getting a fitness assessment at the Student Recreation Center or perhaps signing up for a personal trainer also at the Rec, both for reasonable prices," said Bruce Panneton, facility manager.

Though stair climbing and running on a treadmill are both good sources of exercise, taking advantage of the warm weather helps to alleviate some of the boredom that is often associated with a day at the gym. Activities such as hiking, outdoor biking, tennis and rollerblading can replace

otherwise mundane exercises.

According to Karen [name obscured] in a commentary to a web magazine, an innovative instructor to stars such as Paula Abdul, Helen Hunt and Tina Turner, the key to beginning a permanent health lifestyle is starting off slowly. She feels that one should begin with a 15-20 minute walk or jog three times a week and then move on to doing light stretches in concentrated areas and then finally focus on strength training, adding resistance according to the exerciser's per-

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sonal goal.

"Behavior modification is a great method in trying to stay motivated when dealing with fitness," said Dr. Tom Raedeke, professor of sports and exercise psychology at ECU. "Once someone figures out what's important to them, they can then begin to discipline and reward themselves according to their exercise goals."

Raedeke focuses on discovering what makes an

See **FITNESS**, page 7

Early registration week creates frenzy Long lines, closed classes cause frustration

Andrea Schilling & Susan Wright
STAFF WRITER

It's time-again-to sign up for classes, and everyone who is involved feels the pressure of the week of March 27, 2000. Long lines of students, who rose at 6 a.m., form outside of departmental offices and registration terminals.

Early registration is a week-long period which allows students to plan ahead for next semester and register for classes before the influx of freshman in the fall. The days are divided up according to the amount of credit hours.

"They have to break it up in an allocation of days because the system can't handle everyone going at the same time," said Amy Bissette, assistant registrar.

As early as 7 a.m., students begin to file into lines outside George Anne Davies' office. Davies is the secretary for foreign languages department. On the first day of registration this semester there were only five applicants waiting when the day began at 8 a.m., but there have been as many as 30 or 40 outside her door at one time.

By 9:30 a.m., Davies had already put in 50 student schedules but most of them weren't walk in.



Pre-med adviser Dr. Lawrence Auld gives advice in relation to freshman Tiffany O'Connor. (photo by Garrett McMillan)

"Most of them weren't here; most of them were majors and minors who I put in before it got started," Davies said.

While she was continuing to type schedules into the computer, she was advising students over the phone, which consists of telling them how hard the class will be, how much homework is required, what the current availability of the class is and how compatible it will be with their schedule.

On top of those tasks Davies' deals with students dropping by to fix their schedules and upset staff members seeking assurance that she will not send down any more students requesting special permission to be added to an already full class and this is only the second day of registration.

"It will be busier tomorrow because students are going to be yelling when I tell them that the classes are full, and they want to get special permission," Davies said.

There are several other people that work with students during registration. These staff members deal with students and computer glitches as well.

The Advising Center helps out for a short time during the registration period.

"Sometimes it's hectic but when the students are prepared for their counseling session it's very pleasant," said Wayne Ayers, Advisor.

Students, however, can make it less stressful on everyone simply by being prepared.

"They need to be prepared and need not wait until the last minute to see their advisors, especially undergraduates," Bissette said. "They have to get a signature and their registration code from them."

There are, of course, reasons why it is important to take advantage of this early registration period.

"If you wait until the fall to register, you'd still be able to get your schedule but it might not be what you want, you might have to take alternate classes," Bissette said.

"The majority of students do register early," said Angela Anderson, assistant registrar. "Students register early because usually during early registration, there is a greater opportunity for the class sections that you want, the instructor that you want and the times you want."

This writer can be contacted at
aschilling@studentmedia.ecu.edu.

Pirates take to the rivers

People everywhere, including ECU alumni Eric Thomas and Greg Greenway, begin reveling in the sunshine and the warmth of spring by pulling the boats out from their dark and dusty attic and garage. Although the Tar River is not the most romantic or nontoxic setting for a romp around the river, these alumni seem content to take advantage of any opportunity they have. (photo by Garrett McMillan)



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We've on couple of mo suffocating fr tion and too I still need ti time to do my always around all, but I need and I am thin up with her ju the "Man Sho ing room. Do on how to ge stop? —L'ieiss

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ASK MARJORIE

Dear Marjorie,
My girlfriend drives me crazy! She is always asking when am I going to call her next or when she will see me, after we've just spent the night together! She's asking when she's going to see me next, and she hasn't even left.

We've only been dating for a couple of months, and I am already suffocating from too much attention and too little time to breathe. I still need time with the guys and time to do my schoolwork, but she's always around. She's really cute and all, but I need some time to myself, and I am thinking about breaking up with her just so that I can watch the "Man Show" alone in my living room. Do you have any advice on how to get this suffocation to stop?

—Lifeless Lover

Dear Lifeless Lover,
The fact that she's suffocating you is as much your fault as it is hers. Apparently you haven't set any boundaries for your relationship yet, such as 'I have to play Super NES for four hours every Saturday or my life is not complete.' If she has no idea what you need, and she really enjoys spending time

with you, you can bet that she'll be over at your house every five minutes, asking if you want to do something.

Maybe she feels that you are spending too much time together as well, she just doesn't want to hurt you so she doesn't really say anything. I've been told that it is often the most painful thing in a relationship to be told that you should spend less time together because then the other person feels like you don't love them any more. This is not true. Some married couples even take separate vacations because they both need some breathing room.

Before you two break up, you need to sit down and talk about how much time you actually want to spend together and how much time you want to spend apart. It is always better to talk through something before you all break up.

Dear Marjorie,

My roommate never leaves. He's omnipresent, and I just wish that I had some time by myself. We have lived together for a while, and whenever I walk in, he is either typing on the computer, eating my food or sleeping. I understand that

some people are more comfortable at home, but damn, sometimes you just want to be alone! Is there any nice way that I can tell him to get out without ruining living conditions in my apartment until next fall?

—Cramped

Dear Cramped,
Unfortunately, there is no way to get someone out of their own house unless they are really P.O. at their roommate or have found some new and fascinating activity that takes up all of their time. The best thing for you to do is to find a new place to go to be alone, or lock yourself in your room and turn up the radio really loud.

Sometimes, one of the best ways to unwind is just to take a long drive, and leave the radio off. Don't talk, don't listen to the music, just drive. With gas prices up to \$1.50 per gallon, this can become an expensive activity, but I think it's worth it to have an hour alone and in semi-silence. Next year, you'll know better, and you'll get an apartment all your own.

Marjorie can be contacted at marjorie@studentmedia.ecu.edu.

Mr. Potato Head beckons visitors to Rhode Island

PROVIDENCE, R.I. (AP) — Meet Rhode Island's official travel ambassador: Mr. Potato Head.

The plastic spud with the interchangeable features is homegrown, produced by Pawtucket-based toy maker Hasbro Inc. As part of a campaign dubbed "Rhode Island—The Birthplace of Fun," 6-foot statues of him will greet visitors around the state and ads will be placed in national magazines.

"With Mr. Potato Head sprouting up in our communities, Rhode Island will peel ahead of the crop when it comes to attracting visitors from around the world," Gov. Lincoln Almond said during a mock swearing-in ceremony Thursday.

But what about Idaho, where spuds come in 50-pound bags rather than 160-pound statues?

"We're not trying to usurp their territory," said Becky Bovell of the Rhode Island Economic Development Corp.'s tourism division. "I think that they're safe in that their potatoes are to be consumed and ours

are to be enjoyed."

The Mr. Potato Head statues were designed by local artists with different themes. The first 20 will go up over several days, followed by another 20 or more as corporate sponsors sign on.

There's Salty Spud, dressed in orange raingear with a fishing net in one hand. There's one covered in sand with seaweed hair, starfish eyes and a mouth of shells. Another wears horn-rimmed sunglasses and a bikini.

Hasbro sponsored one of the statues, donated many of the toys for giveaways and waived licensing fees for use of the spud's likeness. The state contributed \$200,000 for advertising and other expenses.

The campaign comes at a time when Hasbro is working to make Mr. Potato Head its corporate symbol. Mr. Potato Head, first made in 1952, was one of Hasbro's first toys and has seen a burst in popularity from its role in the "Toy Story" movies.

Estranged husband says former judicial candidate bore breasts for campaign flier

SHAWNEE, Okla. (AP)—The estranged husband of a former judicial candidate says his wife bore her breasts in a campaign flier to get sympathy from voters.

Fliers of Paula Sage topless circulated when she ran for a state judge's post in 1998. The campaign became a national joke, and Sage is now suing two women whom she accuses of circulating the fliers in a conspiracy to libel her.

But her husband says in a sworn statement that Sage put the fliers out herself.

"We had a very heated argument about it," said Todd D. Mosier in the statement, which surfaced Friday in Sage's \$11 million libel lawsuit. "I strongly disagreed with her. I thought it was very poor judgment." Sage filed for divorce in December.

Her attorney, Tom Cummings, said Mosier's statement is "absurd." "Nobody who wanted to win an election would circulate a vicious, defamatory circular about themselves with the thought that that's going to help them win," Cummings said.

The flier includes a photo of Sage smiling and lifting her sweater and showing her breasts. The flier also

lists 10 reasons not to elect her, including a statement that Sage would be an embarrassment as associate district judge.

Sage is suing Pattee Jackson and Mary Starr, both of whom deny involvement with the flier.

Jackson is secretary to Pottawatomie County Associate Judge John Gardner, who won the 1998 election against Sage by fewer than 400 votes.

Sage said in a 1998 interview that Jackson, a former friend, took the photo at a private Halloween party in 1990.

She offered a \$50,000 reward for information leading to its creator.

"Would you want to hire someone Jay Leno is making jokes about?" Sage asked two years ago. "Whoever did this, I consider them to be evil."

But Mosier said he watched Sage scan the photo into his parent's computer then print the flier.

He quoted her as saying "everyone knows that John Gardner is very vindictive and that everyone will believe that he produced this and she will get elected because of it."

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FITNESS from page 6

individual tick to overcome the misconceptions that often deter people from working out. For example, if someone associates feeling of intense pain when they think of a workout, Raedeke tries to show the individual that exercising doesn't necessarily have to be an

unpleasant experience. Once a fitness program is actively followed, McCammon says that results are often varying in obviousness. "Often times, the results depend on the initial level of fitness," said McCammon. "A lot of

times people use a scale as their source of success or failure but they should focus on how their clothes fit simply because exercise promotes toning up instead of weight loss." In addition to doing an actual workout, it is also important to remember the positive effects of simply walking to classes instead of

riding the bus or taking the steps instead of an elevator. From intramural sports to outdoor adventure programs to taking advantage of the weather by a regular routine such as running or walking, there are numerous venues to create a personalized workout dur-

ing the season of spring. After all, wouldn't it be nice to squeeze into that perfect J. Crew suit and feel fabulous or get buff and impress the beach bunnies you with whom you play a little volleyball?

This writer can be contacted at mbuck@studentmedia.ecu.edu.

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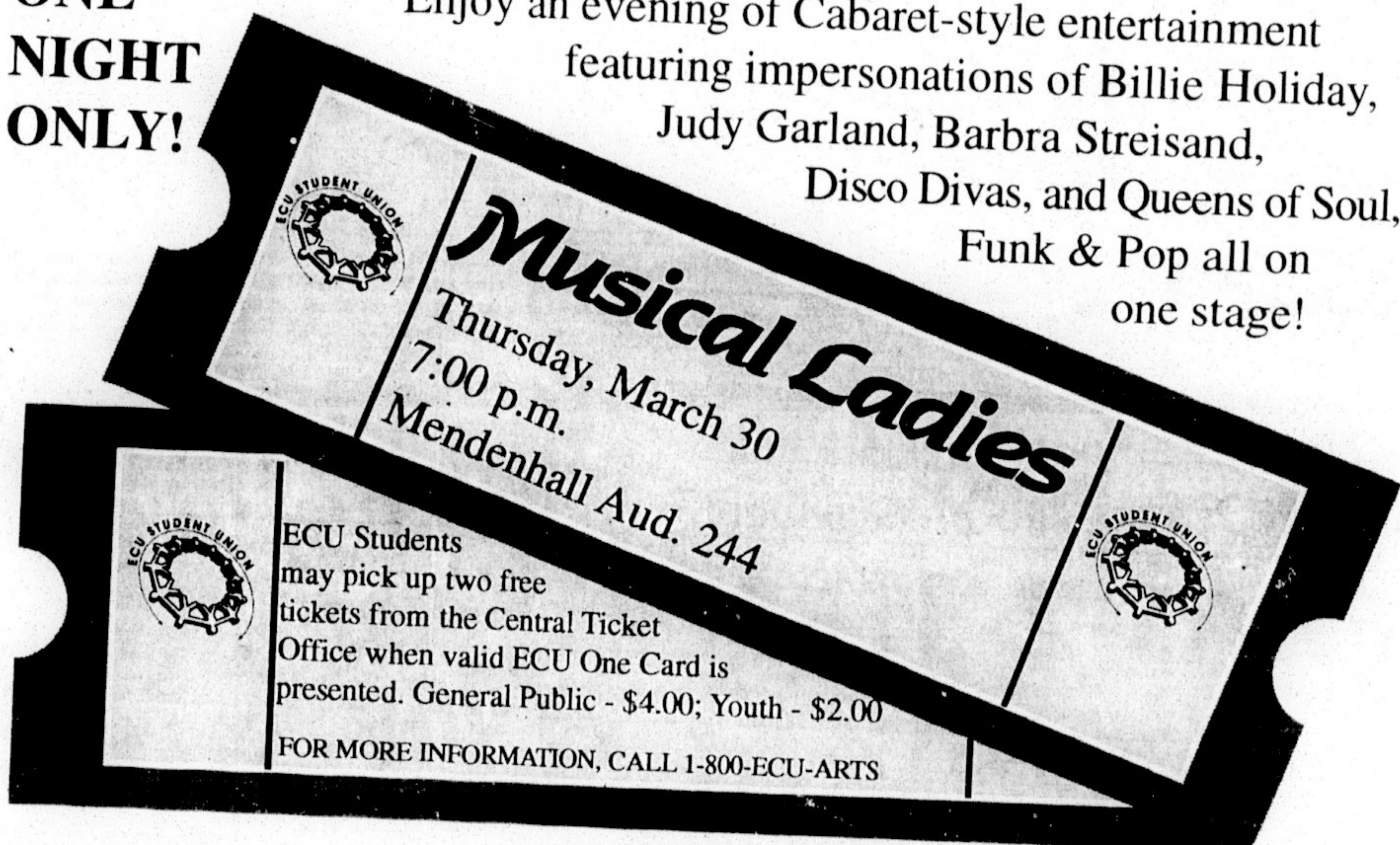
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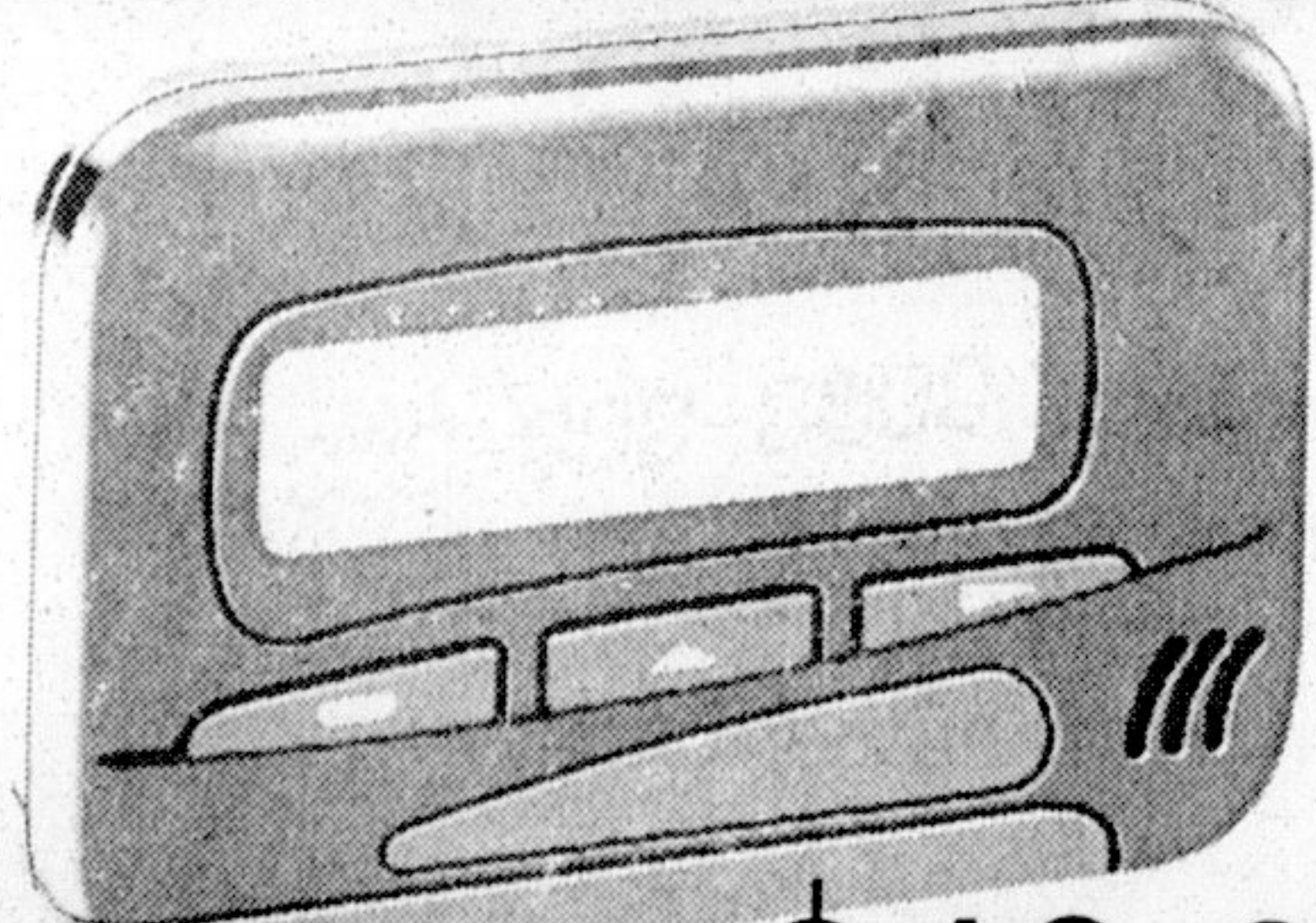
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SPORT

Carruth's girlfriend

Rae Carruth, Panther, paid \$2,000 to buy her girlfriend's hair, hopefully Carruth said "The Carruths' Cheri Carruth friend, was Nov. 16 she while driving baby, Carruth was delivered Caesarean shooting. The Carruths Adams died Carruth murder along Michael Eug Stanley Drev Prosecutors masterminded Adams, so they seek the dea

Rangers' general

With only the playoffs a for the third s New York Ra John Muckler ager Neil Sm Assistant coach the tea games, said t Madison Squa dent, then he and pick the r The Rang largest payrol million, are fiv Buffalo in the and final playe ern Conferen rently lost five and are 1-8-1 games. Muckler ar blows came ir losses of 8-2 Fans booed th shouted for M They got their "At times th out as plann of those time "In the best in chise and our come clear th a different dire

NBC's partner

Sources tol Press that NBC XFL and broad ball league's g ner ship agre World Wrestl entertainment, Inc The deal, w rounced Wedn pro football bac the \$17.6 billion that was negoti 1998. Vince McMa mastermind, int last month, say costs for the lea "Somewhere so lton." Teams alrea league include ington, Miami, C geles and San f

SPORTS BRIEFS

Carruth pays for girlfriend's beating

Rae Carruth, former Carolina Panther, paid Van Brett Watkins \$2,000 to break into his pregnant girlfriend's house, beat her and hopelessly cause a miscarriage, said "The Charlotte Observer." Cherica Adams, Carruth's girlfriend, was never beaten, but on Nov. 16 she was shot four times while driving in Charlotte. The baby, Chancellor Lee Adams, was delivered by emergency Caesarean section after the shooting. The baby survived, but Adams died on Dec. 14. Carruth was charged with murder along with Watkins, Michael Eugene Kennedy and Stanley Drew "Boss" Abraham. Prosecutors say that Carruth masterminded the plot to kill Adams, so they are planning to seek the death penalty.



Rangers fire coach, general manager

With only four games left and the playoffs all but out of reach for the third straight season, the New York Rangers fired coach John Muckler and general manager Neil Smith. Assistant John Tortorella will coach the team for the final games, said Dave Checketts, Madison Square Garden president, then he will hire a new GM and pick the next coach. The Rangers, who have the largest payroll in the NHL at \$61 million, are five points behind Buffalo in the race for the eighth and final playoff spot in the Eastern Conference. They have currently lost five straight games and are 1-8-1 in the last 10 games. Muckler and Smith's final blows came in home-and-home losses of 8-2 and 6-0 by Detroit. Fans booed the players and shouted for Muckler's dismissal. They got their wish a day later. "At times things don't work out as planned and this was one of those times," Checketts said. "In the best interests of the franchise and our fans, it has become clear that we have to go in a different direction."

NBC becomes partner in NFL

Sources told The Associated Press that NBC will own half the NFL and broadcast the new football league's games under a partnership agreement with the World Wrestling Federation Entertainment, Inc. The deal, which will be announced Wednesday, will bring pro football back to NBC who lost the \$17.6 billion, eight-year deal that was negotiated in January 1998. Vince McMahon, the WWF mastermind, introduced the NFL last month, saying the start-up costs for the league would be "somewhere south of \$100 million." Teams already slated for the league include New York, Washington, Miami, Orlando, Los Angeles and San Francisco, with

Pirates notch 15 first-place finishes

Stephen Schramm
SPORTS EDITOR

ECU hosted its first track meet in more than 20 years last weekend. The Pirate Relays drew teams from across the region to compete on ECU's newly refurbished track. The Pirate teams put on a good show winning 15 events. The women were paced by freshman Kay Livick. Livick won the 800 and 1,500 meters and also ran on the victorious 4x800-meter relay squad. "Kay Livick has come a long way," said Len Klepack, head cross country coach. "She has improved a lot as a runner. Her feeling for race tempo you can see. She always very strong at the end." Livick began her meet Friday night picking up a win in the 800 meters. "I probably should have gotten a better start," Livick said. "I know I can run a faster time, but I started out and I didn't quite have my leg speed at the beginning of the race. Then I had to catch up a lot of distance which took a lot of energy out of me." On Saturday Livick notched the wins in the 4x800 and in the 1,500 meters. "In the 1,500, I was pretty tired from doing the 800 last night and the 4x800 right before that, so I was a little tired,"



ECU's Justin England (foreground) and Jamie Mance jockey for position in the men's 5000 meters. (Photo by Emily Richardson)

Livick said. "We ran a real slow first lap of the race. Basically, I just wanted someone else to take the lead so I could just sit on them and just give all I've got in the last stretch." "Kay has really developed as a runner," said Matt Munson, head women's track coach. "There's plenty of room to go, so we're ecstatic at this point." ECU's Ayana Coleman won the 400-meter hurdles and took second in the 100-meter hurdles. Teammate Abby Hayes won the 3,000 meters. "She ran a gutsy race," Klepack said. "She ran the 4x800 earlier in the day, she never gave in. She stayed close enough to where she could use her strength in the end and she had a great kick." In the field events, ECU's Colleen McGinn won the high jump while teammate, Toni Kilgore won the triple jump. Thrower Crystal Frye placed first in the shot put. "Crystal has developed so much this year," Munson said. "You're talking about a kid who came in basically at the beginning of last year throwing about 41 feet [and] now she's throwing 46 feet. We're looking forward to Crystal being a national qualifier if not this year than next." On the men's side the Pirates got seven first and second-place finishes. In Friday's races, freshman Antonio Gray won the 800 meters. Teammate Brian Beil, placed second. "It felt pretty good, especially since it was my only second 800 of the season," Gray

said. In the 5,000 meters, ECU's Justin England and Jamie Mance took first and second respectively. Mance and England held the top two spots for most of the race with England beating out Mance in the final lap. "I think it's tough to run a 5,000 in the heat of the day," Klepack said. "It was a big field. They showed their fitness training has really paid off. They sort of controlled the tempo of the

See TRACK page 10



ECU's Lauren Chadwick gets set for the women's 4x800 meter relay. (photo by Emily Richardson)



In the men's 5,000 meters, Justin England (right) and Jamie Mance (left) finished first and second. (photo by Emily Richardson)

Men	
5,000 meters	1st Justin England 2nd Jamie Mance
4x1500-meter relay	1st ECU
800 meters	1st Antonio Gray 2nd Brian Beil
Women	
800 meters	1st Kay Livick
1,500 meters	1st Kay Livick
400-meter hurdles	1st Ayana Coleman
100-meter hurdles	2nd Ayana Coleman
4x800-meter relay	1st ECU
High jump	1st Colleen McGinn
Triple jump	1st Toni Kilgore
Shot put	1st Crystal Frye
Pole vault	2nd Becky Post
Hammer throw	2nd Margaret Clayton

OPINION COLUMN

Small-market baseball clubs still suffer

Stephen Schramm
SPORTS EDITOR

Another opening day comes, another season begins. Along with the special logos and commemorative cups, most ballparks celebrate opening day by hanging the red, white and blue bunting usually reserved for All-Star Games and the World Series. For most clubs, the bunting, along with their post-season aspirations can be packed away and for the rest of the year soon after the season commences. For the

current economic structure of baseball still causes almost a third of the league to have no realistic hope for a pennant. The problem of small-market teams not being able to compete with their brethren from the major cities is not new. It has been a major subject of debate for much of the last decade. However, the problem remains. Teams in cities such as Kansas City, Minneapolis and Milwaukee still cannot compete with clubs from New York and Los Angeles. While this offseason was slow, there were encouraging signs for small-market teams. The Detroit Tigers traded former Texas star Juan Gonzalez and the former poster-child for the little guys, the Cincinnati Reds, and added arguably baseball's biggest star, Ken Griffey Jr. The Reds themselves are a shining example of a small-market team that has refused to give in to its situation. Two years ago, the team was among the worst in the majors. That winter they added post-season heroes, Greg Vaughn and Denny Naegle. With their improved lineup, the Reds served notice that they were no longer the doormats of the National League. They finished second in the NL Central and were one game out of the playoffs. While the Reds were the most visible small-market team making strides in 1999, other teams such as Philadelphia and Oakland remained competitive all year. Despite the success of the Reds, Phillies and A's, and the encouraging moves made by Detroit, there are still many small-market teams that are faced with another year of losing and being out of conten-

This writer can be contacted at sports@studentmedia.ecu.edu.

TRACK from page 9

race." ECU placed second in the 4x1,500 relay with their "B" team.

While some members of the men's team competed in the Pirate Relays, others traveled south to the Florida Relays. The 4x400-meter relay squad finished fourth with a time of 3:09.78. In the individual 400 meters, ECU's Damon Davis placed with a time of 46.67.

"This meet gave us the opportunity to build some depth in the 400 meters and in the relay," said Bill Carson head track coach.



Brian Beilhelmed placed second in the 800 meters. (photo by Emily Richardson)

This writer can be contacted at sports@studentmedia.ecu.edu.

Cubs top Mets in season opener

TOKYO (AP)—A sumo wrestler waddled to his seat and Crown Prince Naruhito sat in the Royal Box. Fans snacked on sushi with chopsticks, and some even wore surgical masks.

Mike Hampton, however, made this a truly wild opening day.

Baseball truly turned international today, and the Chicago Cubs took advantage of Hampton's nine walks to beat the New York Mets 5-3 in the first major league game played outside North America.

A mostly quiet, sellout crowd announced at 55,000 in the Tokyo Dome watched the earliest opener ever and saw Shane Andrews and Mark Grace homer for the Cubs and new manager Don Baylor.

Mike Piazza hit a two-run shot for the Mets and, in keeping with Japanese "besuboru" custom, was presented with a stuffed doll when he reached home plate. He followed tradition, too, and

threw the trinket over the dugout.

Sammy Sosa, who visited the U.S. Embassy with Piazza earlier in the day, got the biggest cheers. He delivered a double and single, and walked twice.

Jon Lieber kept in control, pitching seven neat innings and allowing one run and five hits. He certainly made his parents proud—his mother and father woke up early back home in Council Bluffs, Iowa, to throw a breakfast party and tune their satellite to the telecast.

After five women in colorful kimonos presented flowers to both teams and the umpires, Hampton started the season by throwing a strike to Eric Young at 7:06 p.m. local time, making it 5:06 a.m. EST in New York and 4:06 a.m. in Chicago and the Liebers' house.

That was about all Hampton got over the plate as he struggled with the mound dirt in his disappointing debut for the Mets.

Traded to New York after going 22-4 for

Houston, Hampton lasted only five innings. In addition to his nine walks—one short of the team record set by Mike Torrez in 1983—he hit a batter and threw a wild pitch.

New baseballs were used, ones bearing the signature of commissioner Bud Selig since the league presidents no longer exist. They did not seem to be the source of Hampton's problem, though, since the Mets infield had no trouble in turning four double plays to back its struggling pitcher.

Lieber wound up with the win and Rick Aguilera got a save, while Hampton took the loss. The Cubs ended a string of three straight losses in openers and beat the Mets for the first time in six tries on opening day. New York, meanwhile, played the game under protest, apparently disputing a ninth-inning lineup change by Chicago.

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Rangers fire general manager, coach

NEW YORK (AP)—With little hope in their final four games of making the NHL playoffs, the New York Rangers decided the time was right to make changes.

The Rangers fired General Manager Neil Smith and Coach John Muckler on Tuesday in the wake of a five-game losing streak that will likely keep New York out of the playoffs for the third straight year.

"And that doesn't happen in this city," said Dave Checketts, the Madison Square Garden president after the dismissals.

Smith was in his 11th season running the Rangers as GM and team president. He presided over the good times when the Rangers ended a 54-year drought by winning the Stanley Cup in 1994.

But it was also under his watch that the team's payroll grew to a league-high \$61 million, and the wins became tougher to come by.

"It should never happen with this organization, particularly as much as we're willing to spend and go to the mat for it," Checketts said. "It has not worked, that's the bottom line, and the results are what created this day."

The Rangers (29-38-11-3) are five points behind Buffalo in the race for the final playoff spot in the Eastern Conference. New York is 1-8-1 in the last 10 games.

Checketts said the decision was made after Monday night's loss, and there was no reason to wait.

"Once you make a decision like this," Checketts said, "the sooner the better."

Muckler was in his second full season as New York's coach after getting the job on Feb. 19, 1998. He replaced the fired Colin Campbell, now

the NHL's disciplinarian.

Assistant John Tortorella will finish out this season's coaching duties. Checketts will hire a GM, and that person will pick the next coach.

A source close to the team said Wayne Gretzky will be involved in helping select a new coach and general manager, but Checketts would not comment on possible successors.

"He's a former Ranger and one of the great all-time players," Checketts said of Gretzky, whose last three NHL seasons were spent in New York. "I don't expect him to be a part of that process."

The final blows for Muckler and Smith were blowouts on Sunday and Monday in which the Rangers were beaten 8-2 and 6-0 by Detroit.

"I was just embarrassed and angry for the fans of the New York Rangers," Checketts said. "We were not showing any pride, we were not showing any leadership, we were not performing the way that these fans deserve, and something had to be done."

Fans booed the players and shouted for Muckler's dismissal in his final Madison Square Garden game. They got their wish Tuesday.

"It's going to be a tremendous amount of work, and it's going to require new leadership," Checketts said. "There should be more scoring, more defense, more pride in the Ranger jersey."

If the Rangers fail to qualify for the postseason, it will be the first time since 1963-64 through 1965-66 they have missed the playoffs in three consecutive years.

"At best it was disappointing, at worst embarrassing," Checketts said.

Venus Williams considers retiring

KEY BISCAYNE, Fla. (AP)—With his family out of contention at the Ericsson Open, mercurial tennis father Richard Williams served up a shocker: His daughter Venus is considering retirement.

Venus, who turns 20 in June, might give up the game to focus on her education and investments, her father said Tuesday. She has yet to play a match this year.

"If Venus retired from tennis, she'd be making a statement," he said. "She's considering that very seriously. On a scale of 10, I'd say she's a 7 or a 7 1/2 [to retire]."

The elder Williams said he advised his daughter to take at least the rest of this year off. She has been sidelined since November and withdrew from the Ericsson two days before it started, citing tendinitis in both wrists.

Venus' 18-year-old sister, Serena, was eliminated Monday in the fourth round. She might retire in three years when her endorsement deal with Puma expires, her father said.

"Because of the planning we've done with these two girls, they don't need tennis any longer," he

said. "When they're 30 years old, they'll have 10 or 12 businesses. The things they'll be doing when they're out of tennis will surpass tennis so much."

Venus beat Serena in last year's final at Key Biscayne. Lindsay Davenport, who has dominated the women's tour in recent months, put little stock in Richard Williams' remarks about Venus.

"I wouldn't take anything he says too seriously," Davenport said. "I wouldn't be surprised if we saw her playing again soon."

With the Williams sisters out of the way, Davenport and Martina Hingis are heavy favorites to reach Saturday's final.

Davenport, seeded second, beat 17-year-old Nadejda Petrova 6-2, 6-1 in the quarterfinals Tuesday.

No. 13 Jennifer Capriati, who eliminated Serena Williams on Monday, flopped in her encore, losing 6-3, 6-4 to No. 12 Sandrine Testud.

The top-seeded Hingis plays Amanda Coetzer tonight.

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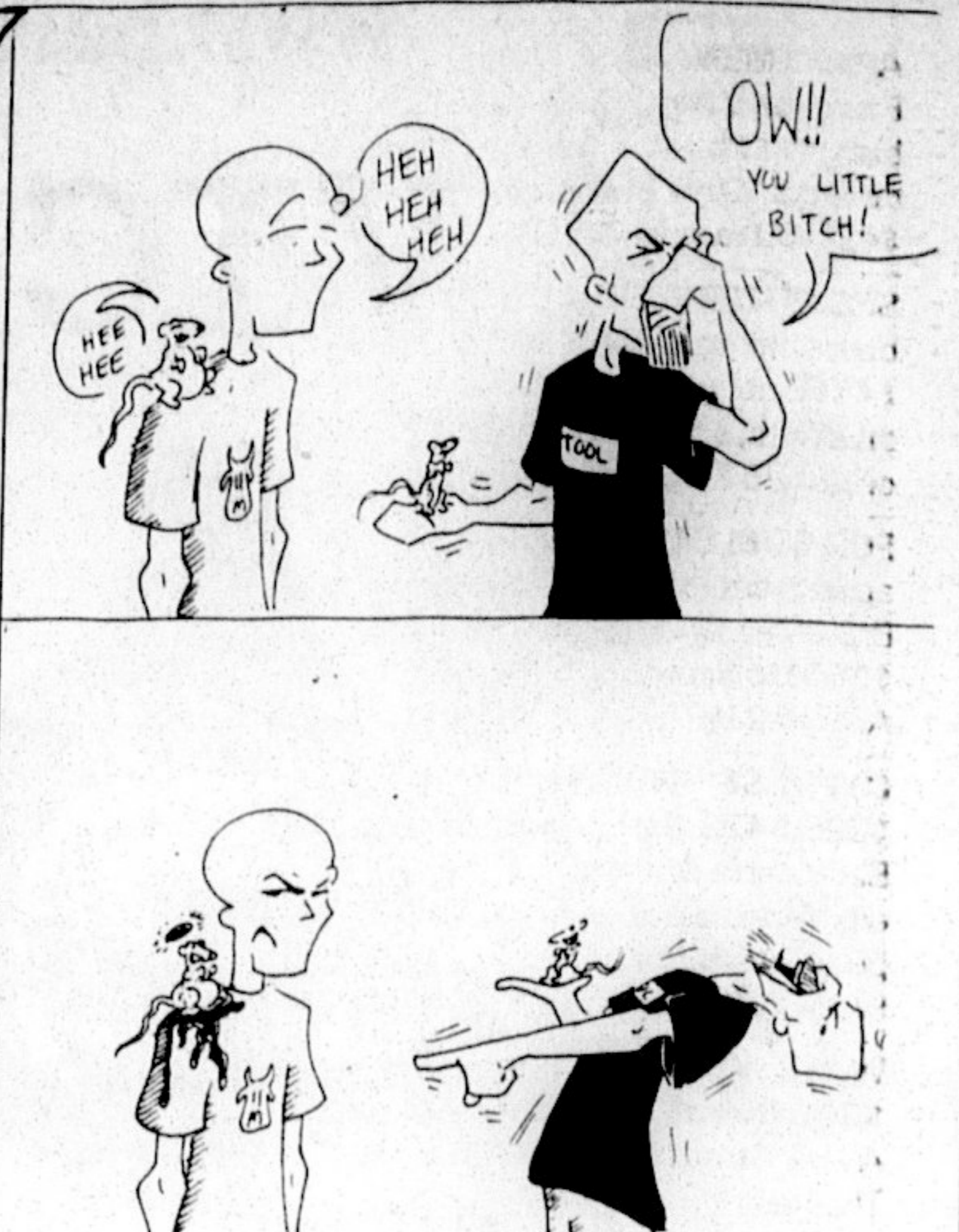
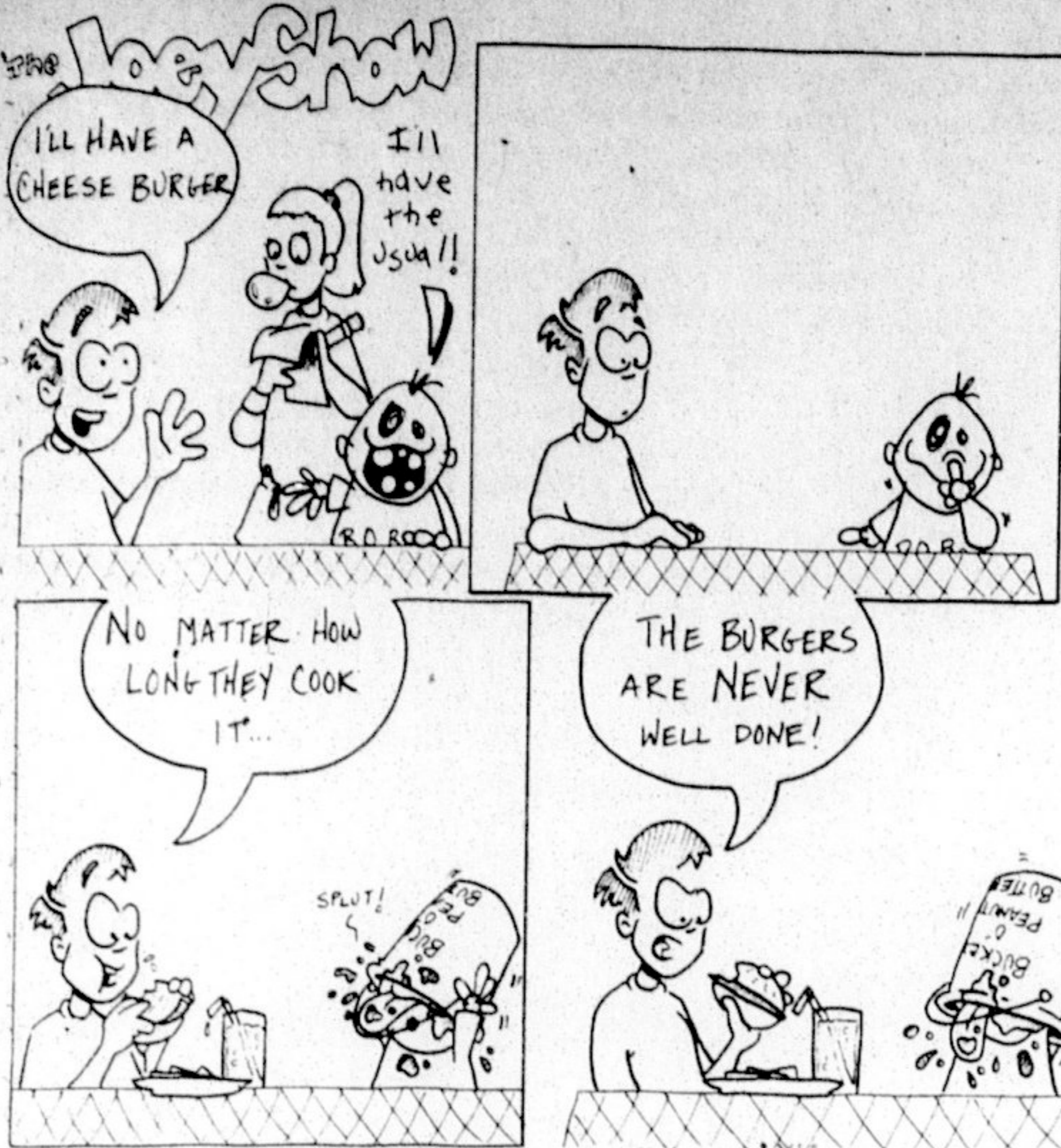
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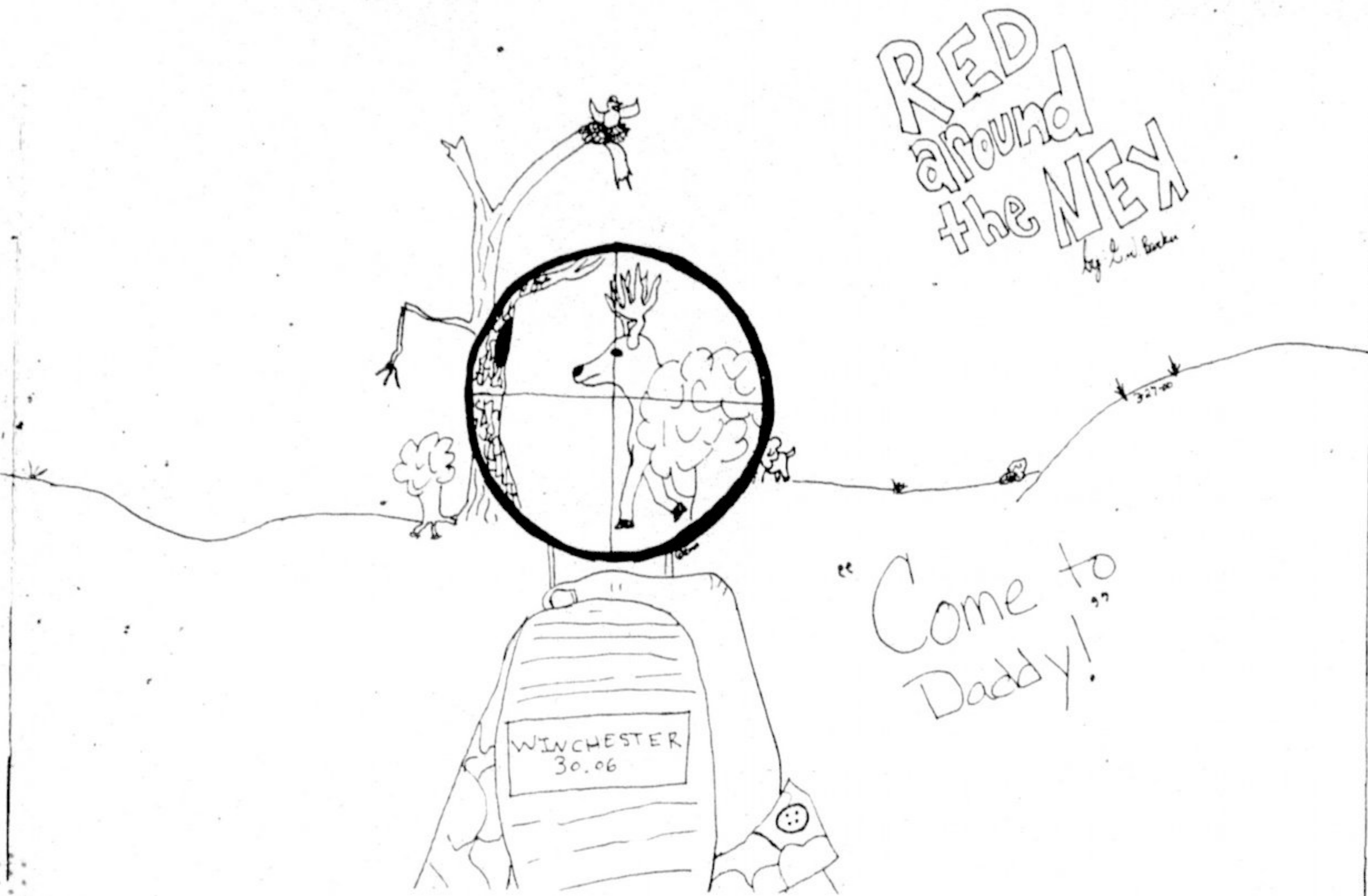
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WALK TO ECU, 1 bedroom apt, \$300/month, available now. 125 Avery Street Call 758-6596, ask for Thomas.

RINGGOLD TOWERS
Now Taking Leases for
1 bedroom, 2 bedroom &
Efficiency Apartments.
CALL 752-2865

HOUSE FOR RENT 302 Lewis St. 3 BR LR DR Kitchen central A/C garage 5 mins to campus no pets \$800/mo. Call 252-504-2052 for applications.

TWO BEDROOM, one bath central heat, AC, fireplace, washer/dryer hook-up. Four blocks from ECU \$550 756-6567.

WALK TO ECU 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 Bedrms, (no flooding), available June, July, or August. Call 321-4712 leave message.

1 BEDROOM, 2 person apartment for sublease for the summer. Rent is \$367.00. Call 752-2529, ask for Candace or Cherry.

LOOKING FOR a place to live? www.housing101.net... Your move off campus! Search for apartments. Free roommate sublet listings.

SUBLEASE PIRATE'S Cove 1-2 rooms available with own bathroom, free cable, water and electricity included. Available starting May. Rent negotiable call Matt at 758-5286.

2 OR 3 BR Duplex available immediately 804-B Johnston Street-1/4 mile from ECU \$550/month- Call Rick @ 551-9040.

SUBLEASE 3 bdrm 3 bath washer/dryer micro. included very clean apt. Avail. May 1st- July 29th option to renew lease yourself! \$275.00 each/ month plus utilities call 758-8692 in Players Club.

3 BEDROOM 1 bath \$700, 2 Bedroom 2 Bath \$450 1 Bedroom \$320 utilities included. All near campus, all available April. Do not call for rentals later than April please. 551-0971 leave message.

CANNON COURT 2 bedroom 1 1/2 bath townhouse. Basic cable included. \$475 per month. Available now and accepting deposits for fall semester. Wainright Property Management 756-6209.

WESLEY COMMONS North. 1 bedroom \$340. 2 bedrooms \$410. Water and sewer included. Available now and preleasing for fall semester. Wainright Property Management 756-6209.

WANT A BREAK?
Get 1/2 off security deposit
through March 31, 2000

**1 or 2 bedrooms,
1 bath, range
refrigerator, free
water/sewer,
washer/dryer
hookups, laundry
facilities, 5 blocks
from campus,
ECU bus services.**

**Wesley
Commons
South:**

All properties have 24 hr. emergency maintenance
Call 758-1921
P.M. Property Management
APARTMENTS & MORE

GLADIOLUS GARDENS & Jasmine Gardens accepting deposits for fall semester. 1 bedroom \$350 per month. 2 bedroom starting at \$410. Wainright Property Management 756-6209.

ROOMMATE WANTED

MALE ROOMMATE needed, 3 BR (each with private bath). All appliances + washer and dryer, computer and phone connections in each BR, 5 blocks E, of campus (flood free), available June 1st, \$285/month, leave name and phone with mgr. at 329-1162 or e-mail: rentgvl@earthlink.net

ROOMMATE NEEDED for summer/fall. Rent 237.50 & 1/2 utilities. Located on 11th st. convenient to campus. Apt. complex includes pool & laundry room. Call Ginger 329-8051.

FEMALE ROOMMATE needed ASAP to share large four bedroom house. Close to campus, across from art building. \$189/month washer/dryer. Small yard. 835-434, great place to live!

F/ROOMMATE NEEDED to share 2 bedroom 2.5 bath townhouse with washer and dryer. Must love dogs! Room available in June but call ASAP 328-9773.

2 FEMALE students with pets seek female roommate to share 3 bedroom house 1/4 mile from ECU good house-keeping expected- smokers welcome - \$200/month- call Rick @ 551-9040.

FEMALE. SHARE three bedroom home with two female students. Campus three blocks. Prefer graduate student. Central Air, Ceiling fans, Washer, Dryer. \$250.00 plus utilities. (703)680-1676.

STUDIOUS NONSMOKING female roommate needed to share 2 bedroom townhouse available mid-May. Rent \$175 + 1/2 utilities. Call Susan at 355-6453.

FOR SALE

NO CREDIT check. Cellular Phones + Pagers. ABC Phones 931-0009, 316-D East 10th St. (next to Papa Oliver's Pizzeria).

BRAND NEW loudspeakers for sale. For details call Aziz 754-0981.

Dapper Dan's
Big Sale
25% - 75%
Retro and Vintage Clothing
Handmade Silver Jewelry & More
417 Evans St. Mall 752-1250
More from Dapper Dan's
back door on parking lot across from College

SERVICES

DON'T LOSE your deposit for leaving your carpet a mess. Have your carpet professionally steam cleaned. We'll clean it so you don't have to. Call Advance Carpet Cleaning 493-0211.

D.J. FOR HIRE
NYC D.J. READY TO
HYPE UP YOUR PARTY!!!
For all functions & campus
organizations!!
Call J.Arthur @ 252-412-0971

HELP WANTED

\$7.00 PER hour plus \$150.00 per month housing allowance. Largest rental service on the Outer Banks of North Carolina (North Carolina). Call Dona for application and housing info 800-662-2122.

THE GREENVILLE Recreation & Parks Department is recruiting individuals willing to work 15-30hrs a week with some background knowledge in one or more of the following areas: in-line skating, skateboarding and in-line hockey. Applicants will be responsible for overseeing both the skate park and in-line hockey rink at the Jaycee Park. The Skate/bike park is open Tuesday - Sunday from 2:00pm till dark, and Saturdays 10:00am till dark. Salary rates range from \$5.15 to \$6.50 per hour. For more information, please call Ben James, Judd Crumpler or Michael Daly at 329-4550 after 2 PM.

APPOINTMENT SETTING telemarketers. Full-time or part-time. Flexible hours. Great for students or career marketers. Health insurance, paid vacation. Great pay plus benefits and bonuses. Call Thermal-Gard 355-0210.

HELP WANTED

ADULT ENTERTAINERS and dancers needed. Must be 18 own phone and transportation. No drugs. Make \$1500 weekly. 758-2737.

LOSE WEIGHT and make \$money\$!! Lose 7-29 lbs per month. Earn up to \$1200 month. 19 years of guaranteed results! Call 757-2292 for Free Consultation!

NEED TUTOR for college level English with experience in writing essays in Jr level English will pay a good hourly rate. Call Ashley, 746-7531.

RESTAURANT RUNNERS now hiring drivers 2-way radios allow for unparalleled freedom to study, watch tv, or visit friends while waiting for an order. Perfect hours for students 756-5527.

LOCAL LAW firm has part-time position available. Responsibilities include: opening, closing, maintaining and storing files. Must be computer literate. M-F. 12:30-5:30. Please send resumes to: Legal Administrator, 1698 E. Arlington Blvd., Greenville, NC 27858.

SUN, FUN and Employment! Busy Marina needs dependable, hard-working summer help. Great pay. Weekends required, must pass drug screening. Call for interview (252) 726-2055.

\$FUNDRAISERS \$ OPEN to student groups or organizations. Earn \$5 per MC app. We supply all materials at no cost. Call for info or visit our website. 1-800-932-0528 X 65 www.ocm-concepts.com

GREENHOUSE PRESCHOOL has full-time and part-time teacher positions. Great experience for ELEM and CDFR majors. Call 355-2404 for more information.

QUADRIPLEGIC seeks assistance bathing, lifting, driving morning or afternoon. Call 353-9074.

LOOKING FOR individuals available full time May-October. Four star resort in mountains of NC. Front desk and dining room available. We provide room/board. Scholarships available. Perfect for the student taking time off. Please call 828.733.4311 for an application.

WORK AROUND your schedule! \$500-\$1500 P/T per month \$2000-6000 F/T per month. Full training. Earn expense paid vacations. Only 5 people needed. Call 757-2763 M-F 9-5. EXT #1229.

EARN \$6.50 and up. Tuition Painters now hiring in Greenville, Washington, and surrounding areas. No experience necessary. Chances for advancement. Call 347-1366 or 353-4831.

DO YOU need a good job? The ECU Telefund is hiring students to contact alumni and parents for the ECU Annual Fund. \$5.50 hour plus bonuses. make your own schedule. If interested, call 328-4212, M-Th between the hours of 3-6pm.

SUMMER CAMP counselors needed for premier camps in Massachusetts & New Hampshire. Positions available for talented, energetic, and fun loving students as general counselors and specialty counselors in all team sports, all individual sports such as Tennis & Golf, Waterfront and Pool activities, and specialty activities including art, dance, theater, gymnastics, newspaper, rocketry & radio. Great Salaries, room, board, and travel. June 17th-August 16th. Enjoy a great summer that promises to be unforgettable. Check out our web site and apply on line at www.greatcampjobs.com or call 1-800-562-0737.

\$\$\$ NOW HIRING \$\$\$ Passion Escorts, day and evening shifts available. Must be at least 18yrs. old. No experience needed. Taking calls from 1p.m.-9p.m. 747-7570

EXOTIC DANCERS \$1000-\$1500 weekly. Legal lap dancing. No experience needed.. Age 18 up, all nationalities. 919-580-7084., Goldsboro.

GREEK PERSONALS

THE PLEDGES of Gamma Sigma Sigma would like to congratulate Karen Trodahl on her acceptance into the Orientation Assistant program.

DEIDRE SMITH your sisters are very proud of you on your acceptance to the Meisner program. Love the sisters of Zeta Tau Alpha.

CONGRATULATIONS to Sarah McConnell on your Theta Chi lavalier to Greg Creeson. Love the sisters of Zeta Tau Alpha.

SIGMA NU. thanks for last Thursday's social. It was a blast! Can't wait to get together again soon! Love, Alpha Phi.

GREEK PERSONALS

ALPHA XI Delta, we had a blast with you guys skating. We hope to have more wild and crazy times to come. The brothers of Sigma Alpha Epsilon.

CONGRATULATIONS to Catherine Berkley, Luci Gulleage, Jamaca Hubbard-Campbell, Brooke Harrison, Cynthia Havens, Tiffany Jones, Jodi Kaufmann, Brittany Lorimer, Erin Perkins, and Stacie Welles on becoming New Members of Alpha Xi Delta. Love the sisters of Alpha Xi Delta.

DELTA SIGMA Phi, thank you for a great time at the social Friday night. Lets do it again soon. Love Chi Omega.

THETA CHI would like to thank Delta Zeta for the outstanding wash on our lawnmower.

NEED A good DJ at an affordable price? Cakalaxy Entertainment offers good times at a great price! Late nights, formals, semi-formals, or any occasion (references available)! Call Jeff (252) 531-5552.

CONGRATULATIONS to Alison Gurganus on the TLC position. We know you worked hard to get it. Love your Zeta sisters.

THANK YOU Panhellenic and Chapter presidents for all your support this weekend! Love, the sisters of Pi Delta sorority.

THE PLEDGES of Gamma Sigma Sigma would like to thank Michelle Snyder for doing a great job with the pledge retreat! We had a blast!

ALPHA PHI would like to thank everyone who came out to support our Greek Auction. Also thanks to everyone who was auctioned off! Can't wait until next year!

THANK YOU MaryBeth Petteway and all the sisters involved in planning our Pink Rose Ball! Love your Alpha Xi Delta sisters.

SIGMA PHI Epsilon, Friday's social was a blast. Lets get together again soon! Love, Alpha Phi.

GREG CREESON its about time. Congratulations Sarah. It's only been 4 years.

CONGRATULATIONS to Tabitha Redding on receiving the Rivers Grant for your study abroad! CIAO-your Pi Delta sisters.

OTHER

LEARN TO SKYDIVE
CAROLINA SKY SPORTS
1-800-SKYDIVE
www.carolinaskysports.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WANT TO stop smoking? Sign up now for Fresh Start program by student trainers. Takes on hour per week for four weeks. Your lungs will love you for it! Call Dr. Betty Straub at 328-6793.

BAND JAM 2000 tonight at the Attic. Aftertone, Box 49, Two Fingers. Tickets \$8 at the door. Doors open at 9:30.

ADULT & COMMUTER Student Services invites all students over 24 to our monthly get together on Monday, April 3, 6-7 p.m. in the ACSS office, lower level of Mendenhall. Newcomers are always welcome!

CHI OMEGA would like to invite the ladies of ECU to an Open House on Thursday March 30 from 4 to 6pm. For information call 757-0420.

ALPHA KAPPA Psi presents first annual JUST CAUSE benefit for American Cancer Society April 1st at the Attic featuring Cold Sweat with Jelly Side up. Free Pizza, door prizes tickets \$4 in advance \$6 at door. On sale at CD Alley, Washpub, East Coast Music, the Attic and by brothers. Doors open at 9:30.

APRIL CONTRA Dance! Sat., April 1 at the Willis Bldg., 1st & Reade St. (downtown). Band: Robin and the Pick-ups; Caller: Robin Hayes. Free beginners lessons, 7-7:30pm; dance, 7:30-10:30pm. No experience necessary. Come alone or bring a friend. Students \$3.00, public \$5.00-\$7.00. Sponsors: ECU Folk and Country Dancers. 328-0237.

FULL TIME male students interested in joining Omega Psi Phi Fraternity should complete information sheets in the Dean of Students Office. Please note that you must be a full-time student and have a minimum GPA of 2.50. Information sheets must be completed by April 10.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ASSERTIVENESS TRAINING: This workshop teaches you the importance of being assertive and helps you become more aware of why it is difficult for you to do so. Learn ways to communicate more assertively. For more information about this workshop on March 30 at 3:30pm, contact the Center for Counseling and Student Development at 328-6661.

CHOOSING A Major and a Career: Learn what your interests, values, and abilities are and how they match up to occupations. This workshop will also include strategies for job exploration. The workshop meets every Thursday at 3:30-5:00. For more information, please contact the Center for Counseling and Student Development at 328-6661.

TEST ANXIETY: This workshop is designed to help you learn effective ways to deal with anxiety before a test. Strategies will be discussed. For more information about this workshop, please call the Center for Counseling and Student Development at 328-6661. This workshop meets on March 30 at 11:00am.

SUPPORT GROUP for Hepatitis B and C. PCMH Regional Rehab Classroom Third Thursday of each month 7pm-9pm. Contact: Vicki or Dennis Davis 252-321-5662 or vicken@greenvilenc.com

BECOMING A Successful Student: This one-hour session will give you the opportunity to discuss academic concerns and learn general study skills strategies for time management, note-taking, and test-taking. This workshop meets on Tuesday, April 4 at 3:30. Any questions can be directed to the Center for Counseling and Student Development at 328-6661.

DISC GOLF Tournament. The ECU Disc Golf Club is throwing a Fax Day Tourney, Saturday, April 15th. Registration is from 9:45 am. \$3 for students w/ ECU ID, \$5 for non-students. Lots of prizes! All abilities welcome! Call 752-6180 FMI.

GOLDEN KEY Honor Society will meet Tuesday, April 4th at 7:30 in GCB 1026. For more information www.ecugk.8m.com

NEED A DATE?



Try our campus calendar
at.ecu.edu

AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY

WELCOME COLLEGE STUDENTS - FOR A RIDE CALL 830-1186
CHRIST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
4889 Old Tar Road
Winterville
355-9632
Services: 9:30 a.m. Sun.

JOIN US FOR A GOOD BIBLE PREACHING, FRIENDLY ATMOSPHERE, A CHURCH THAT CARES
IMMANUEL FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
317 Vernon White Road
Winterville
756-2670
Services: 10, 11 a.m., 6 p.m. Sun.; 7:30 p.m. Wed.

DYNAMIC WORSHIP - JOHN 4:24 DYNAMIC MESSAGE - ACTS 2:38
FIRST UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH
114 E. 11th Street
Greenville
757-3033
Services: 10 a.m., 7:30 pm. Sun.; 7:30 p.m. Wed.

WHERE GOD IS PRAISED, LIVES ARE CHANGED & FRIENDS ARE MADE!
CHURCH OF CHRIST
1700 SE Greenville Blvd.
Greenville
752-6376
Services: 9 & 10:15 a.m. Sun.; 7 & 8:30 p.m. Wed.

WE INVITE YOU TO OUR SERVICES
SAINT JAMES UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
2000 E. 6th Street
Greenville
752-6154
Services: 8:30 & 11 a.m., Sun.; College Sunday School class 9:45 a.m.

A MULTI-CULTURAL CHURCH-CUTTING-EDGE MUSIC-ACTIVE CAMPUS MINISTRY
FAITH AND VICTORY CHURCH
3950 Victory Lane
Greenville
355-6621
Services: 9 & 10:45 a.m. Sun.; 7 p.m. Wed.

REACHING OUT WITH THE CLAIMS OF CHRIST
FIRST FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
2426 S. Charles Blvd.
Greenville
756-6600
Services: 9:45 a.m. Sunday School, 11 a.m., 7 p.m. Sun.; 10 a.m. & 7 p.m. Wed. Bible Study

COME AND SEE WHAT GOD INTENDED CHURCH TO BE
KOINONIA CHRISTIAN CENTER CHURCH
408 Hudson Street
Greenville
752-1848
Services: 8 & 11 a.m. Sun.; 7 p.m. Wed.

PIRATES WORSHIPPING WITH PIRATES
UNITY FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
2725 E. 14th Street
Greenville
756-6485
Services: 8:30, 9:45, 11 a.m., 6 p.m. Sun.; 6:30 p.m. Wed.

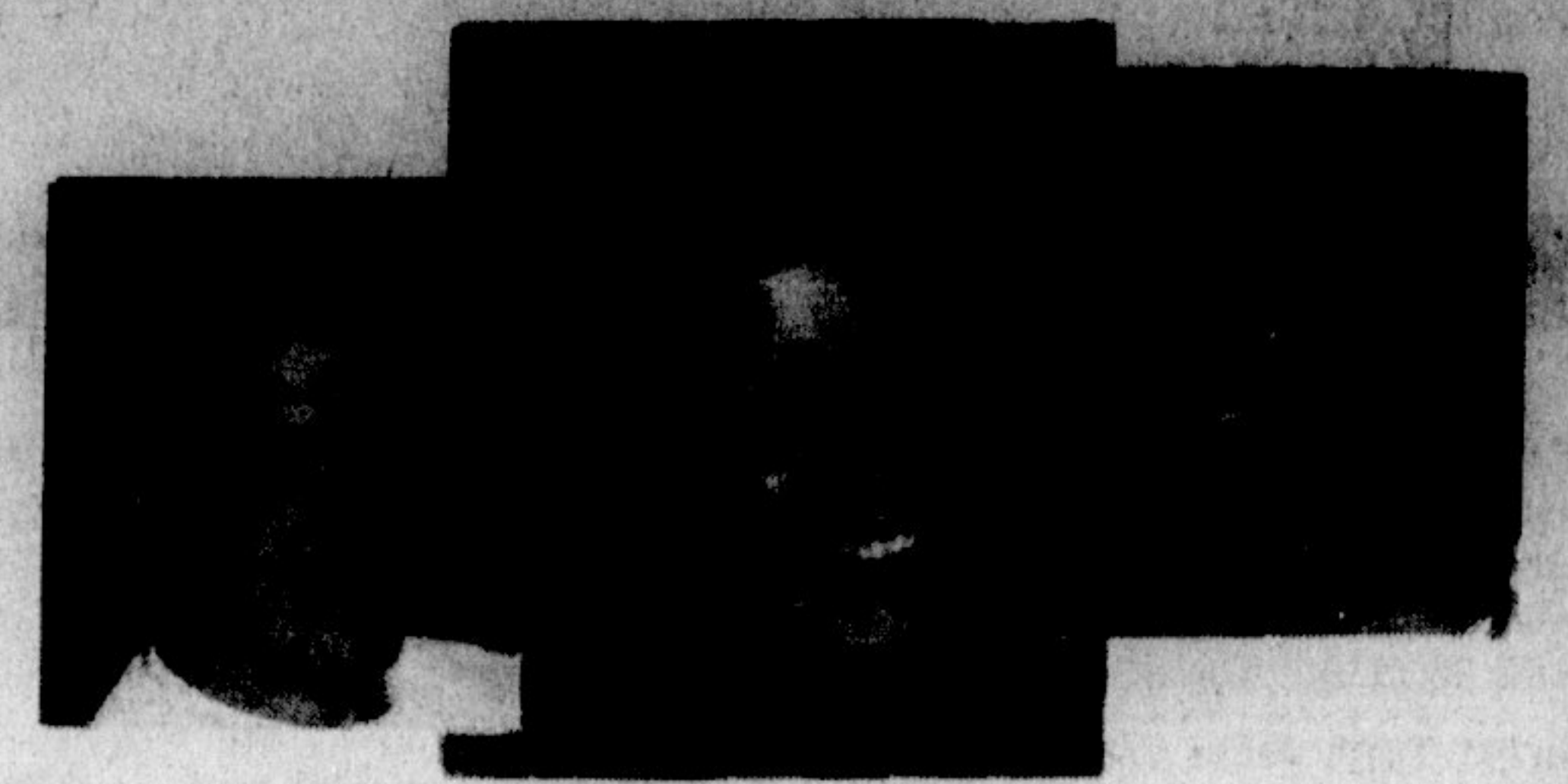
A WARM WELCOME AWAITS YOU AT THE GREENVILLE CHURCH OF GOD
GREENVILLE CHURCH OF GOD
3105 S. Memorial Drive
Greenville
355-6595
Services: 9:45 a.m., 6 p.m. Sun.; 7:30 p.m. Wed.

ADVERTISE IN THE EAST CAROLINIAN CLASSIFIEDS.
IT WORKS!

Wanted: Summer Help at the BEACH!
Graduating Senior Preferred;
Undergraduate Applications Accepted Also
Great Pay: **FREE** Housing
All Interested Email at RISKYB@interpath.com

Our photographers are out on campus capturing shots of you at your best. If you see yourself in one of our ads, go to MSC 109 and identify yourself. We'll reward you for paying attention.

Student Life



A biweekly glance at what's happening in the Division of Student Life

U.S. Census 2000

How America Knows What America Needs

Your help is crucial for a Complete Census Count!

As an ECU student who lives off campus you are encouraged to complete your census form. Census forms are due April 1—Census Day.

Just a Few of the Ways the Census Benefits You

- * The distribution of billions of dollars in state and federal funds is based on census numbers—We're talking schools, job centers and playgrounds.
 - * The census helps us understand labor supply—Employers need to know where the next generation of workers is coming from.
 - * Scientific research depends on census data—Sociology reports, medical studies, statistical profiles and maybe even your own research papers depend on census data.
 - * Planners use the census to develop recreational programs—Children need playgrounds, older people may want parks and you may need a bike path.
 - * Planning for public transportation services, such as selecting bus routes requires census numbers.
 - * The census is needed to establish fair market rents and enforce fair lending practices.
 - * The census helps identify areas eligible for housing assistance and rehabilitation loans.
- If you are not living with your parents, fill out your own Census form.
- Census 2000 will count people at their usual residence, the place where they live and sleep most of the time. This place is not necessarily the same as the person's voting residence, legal residence or permanent residence.
- * Students living away from home while attending college are counted where they are living at college. Off campus students receive a questionnaire in the mail.
 - * Students living at their parents' home while attending college are counted at their parents' home.
 - * Students who are citizens of foreign countries, but who are part of a household in the U.S., are counted at that household.
 - * Students who are citizens of foreign countries and are temporarily traveling or visiting in the U.S. are not counted in the census.

Don't Get Lost! Fill it out!

Students who don't complete their census forms may be visited in person by a census taker. This process could last through June. We don't want to miss students who may be leaving Greenville during the summer. So, to ensure a complete count, fill out and turn in your census form now. This is your future, don't leave it blank!

For more information visit <http://www.census.gov>

Visit us

www.ecu.edu/career

Overview of Career Services

Seniors, Graduate Students & Alumni, Register Here!

First Year, Sophomores & Juniors, Explore Career Options!

Position Listings—Other Sites

Developing Effective Resumes

Interviewing Overview

Employers Guide to Career Services

Employers, Submit Job Leads Now!

Take a Virtual Tour!

*"If you can imagine it,
You can achieve it.
If you can dream it,
You can become it."*

-William Arthur Ward

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© 1999 Victor Corneo

Not too late to apply for financial aid

Students wishing to be considered for Summer 2000 financial aid must:

1. Have a 1999-2000 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) on file. If you received financial aid during the Fall 1999 or Spring 2000 semesters, you've probably already filed this form. Check with the Office of Student Financial Aid to be sure.
2. Register for at least 6 credits (if you're an undergraduate student) or for at least 5 credits (if you're a graduate student) for the Summer of 2000.

Generally, the only type of financial aid available during the summer is the Federal Stafford Loan or Federal Parent Loan. A student can borrow only the difference between the maximum Federal Stafford Loan for his/her grade level and the amount he/she borrowed during the 1999-2000 academic year. Maximum loan limits are:

	Dependent	Independent
0 - 29 credits	2625	4000
30 - 59 credits	3500	4000
60 - 89 credits	5500	5000
90 credits +	5500	5000
graduate stdt	8500	10,000

Students wishing to be considered for 2000-01 financial aid must complete the 2000-01 FAFSA as soon as possible. FAFSAs are available in the Office of Student Financial Aid, and in the hall outside the office.

Visit the Office of Student Financial Aid in the Old Cafeteria Building. Office hours are 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Call 328-6610 for assistance. Email your questions to faques@mail.ecu.edu.

be on the LOOKOUT

Prize Patrol visits ECU to award lucky winners

On Wednesday, March 29, the East Carolina University Housing and Dining Prize Patrol will visit the ECU campus and make award presentations to the lucky winners of the 2000 Return Housing and Dining Sweepstakes. Winners were drawn from all students that participated in the recent sign-up program, in which they reserved a room and a meal plan for the 2000-01 school year. The theme of this year's sweepstakes is "Reach For The Stars - Every one Wins with Campus Living". The Prize Patrol, an entourage of management from the two campuses, awards the prizes during class time and presents the prizes in their class in order to surprise students. Students will be surprised as the Prize Patrol enters their classrooms and presents them with a giant check stating the prize won and a bouquet of flowers. Prizes include a VCR, Microfridge, AT&T long distance phone, mountain bike, big screen TV, sem plan, and the grand prize, free room for spring semester 2000. Wake up and go to class March 29th!



What's Up

Division of Student Life: Collectively Serving Students for Individual Success!

TRADE YOUR IDEAS FOR
FREE FOOD AT THE
STUDENT FOODSERVICE
ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING
APRIL 5 AT 5 PM
IN SWEETHEART'S
RSVP 328-2337

PREMIUM NIGHT (NY
STRIP OR CRAB LEGS)
AT TODD AND
MENDENHALL
APRIL 8 FROM
4:30 PM -
7:30 PM

LOST WORLDS OF
THE MIDDLE EAST,
TRAVEL-ADVENTURE
FILM & THEME
DINNER
TUESDAY, MARCH 28,
2000
4:00 PM
MENDENHALL

Thursday, March 30.00 • The sultan of Kelatan's birthday

volume 2, issue 7

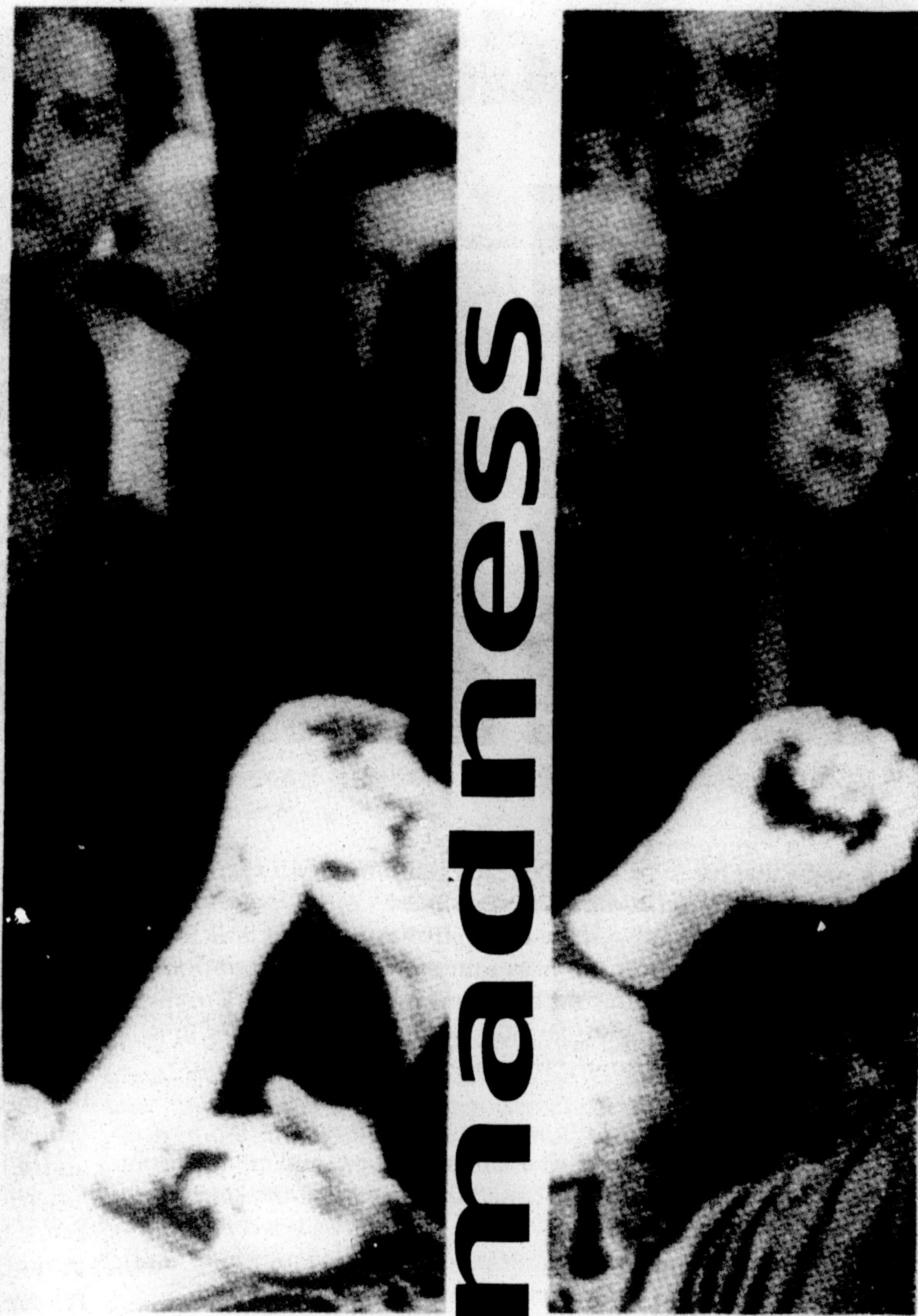
FOUNTAIN HEAD

a publication of *The East Carolinian*



mosh

pit



madness

the truth about college life

blasting hollywood's expectations, pg. 4

climb every mountain

how to get started, pg. 6

for your viewing pleasure

a look at what's on television, pg. 3

Patrick McMahon
Entertainment Editor

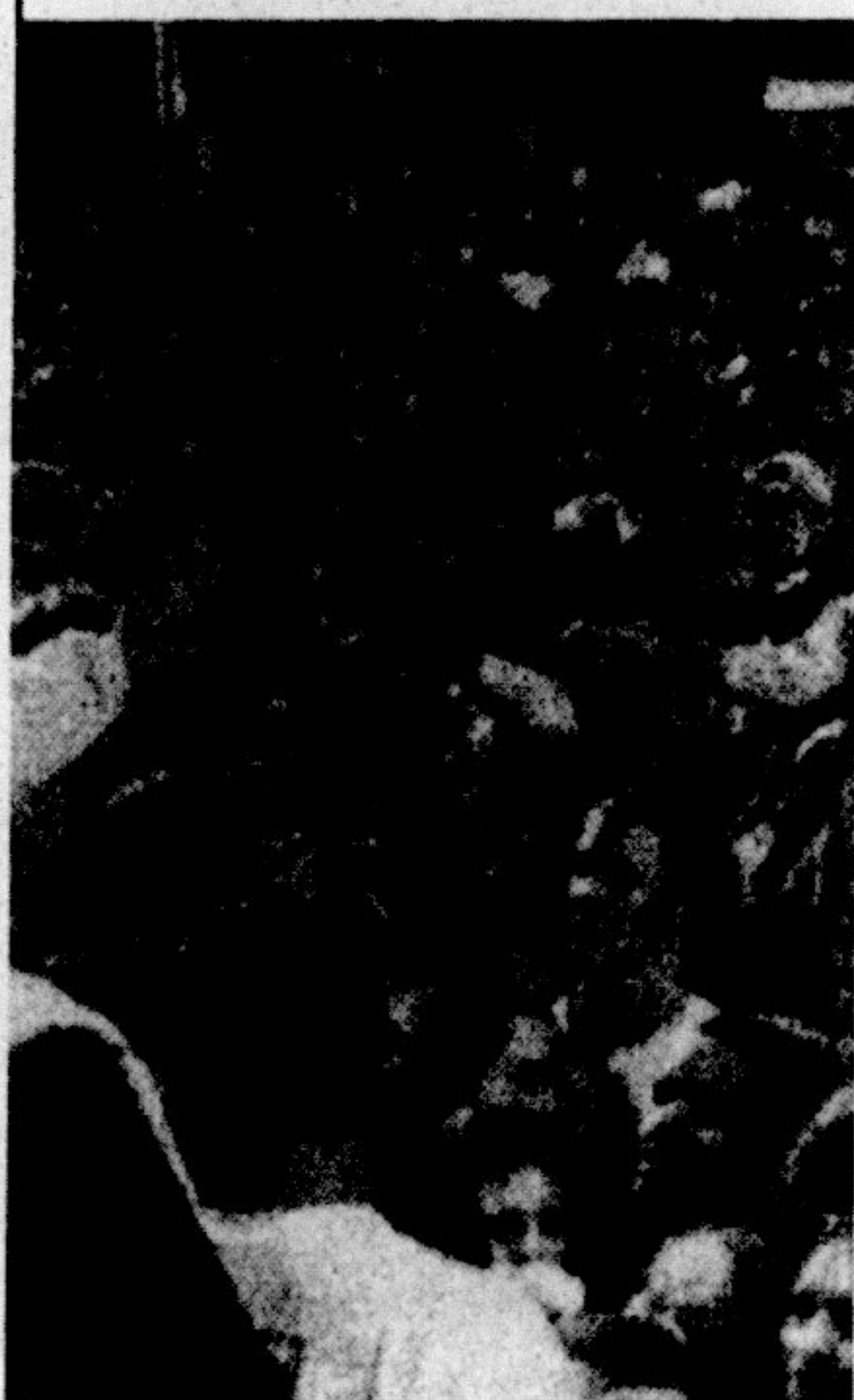
The thrill of the hunt and the thrill of the attack. Both keep big-game hunters in the ever elusive search for the next big kill. Unfortunately, they are not the only ones sharing this sentiment. Moshing, slam dancing or just plain lunacy is sweeping the nation with young fans banging into each other like McSorley's hockey stick to that poor guy's temple.

Every night around the country you can find numerous concert-goers ready and willing to throw themselves amongst the wolves, thrashing wildly about while slamming head-on into the oncoming traffic of another person's forearm. It is a

death. Reports range from allegations that O'Brien suffered a heart attack to her being crushed under the weight of other fans after falling. But, the blame on crowd-surfing plagued the case from the get-go. These potential lawsuits have many bands worrying not only about crowd safety, but also about their own responsibility for the crowd.

A similar instance of stage diving resulting in death is the tragic end to 17-year-old Christopher Mitchell's life at a concert. Reports vary, but documents obtained by "People Magazine" show that Christopher stage dived once successfully, but when he tried again he was grabbed by a security guard who threw him back into the crowd. The crowd, unfortunately, didn't bother to catch him. He landed on the side of his head with the

Slam dancing with the law



The pit pushes bodies toward the stage at a 1996 Pearl Jam concert. (photo by Charles Peterson)

sight that has to be witnessed, and from my view, experienced to be fully understood.

It seems as though the mosh pits have gotten a little more people-friendly over the years with more care exhibited from the participants about the other fans in the "pit." Back in the early '90s, moshing was about as safe as sticking your leg in a meat grinder and hoping the blades would miss. However, times have changed.

The mosh pits of the angry and rebellious early '90s have given way to the friendlier assault upon body and mind. For example, last November's Limp Bizkit concert at the Raleigh Entertainment and Sports Arena. Mosh pits were everywhere, and hundreds of people participated, including myself. What I saw in those pits amazed me.

If a kid got knocked down or accidentally got hit in the nose, thus breaking it, the other moshers would immediately get him out of the circle o' death, pulling him to the side before letting him back into the pit. In the rare instance that someone really started bleeding, we all took the injured moshers to a paramedic and helped him find his other friends.

If you thought that would have happened five to eight years ago, you should be committed to a loony bin. Even though the fervor of moshing still remains true to its roots, there is obviously a higher level of concern for moshers' safety than there was just four years ago.

Take, for instance, a Smashing Pumpkins concert in Dublin, Ireland in 1996. In a now infamous incident that brought the legalities of moshing and stage-diving to the forefront of the nation's beady little eyes, Bernadette O'Brien, 17, died while moshing. Even though there is no real account of how her injuries took place, the band faces a civil suit for her

full weight of his body coming straight down. The bouncer was charged with negligent homicide, but this was later plea bargained down to manslaughter. Unfortunately, no information has since been published regarding the case and no resolution could be reached as to the band's role in the incident.

Many anti-moshing advocates use these two deaths as their main weapons in the fight against slam dancing, but they may be missing the point. Sure, the death of these two kids is sad and unfortunate, but times have changed, the music has changed and fan moral has changed.

The Limp Bizkit show gave me three bruised ribs, but I don't blame the band. That seems to be the drug of choice for many parents who find that their youngin' cut their arm after being in the pit.

Many critics think of noshing as a male-only festival of testosterone, but women have more often than not joined into the fun as well, further adding to the display of caring about your fellow pit-player.

The basics are this: A band can save itself from the headaches of lawsuits by doing two simple things. Namely, hire the bouncers as independent contractors so that the band isn't accountable for what they do, or just give them wussies the finger and keep on playing. Me, I prefer the latter because it emphasizes responsibility on the part of the fan who chooses to get into the pit. Like grandma usta' tell me when I was little, "If ya kain't stand da heat, get ya ass out da' kitchen." Amen.

**This writer can be contacted at
pmmahon@studentmedia.ecu.edu.**

sweeps kick up
new TV shows

Emily Little
Fountainhead Editor

It's that time again—sweeps week, when all the network stations show us what wonderful new products of genius they have to entertain us with this year.

Did you miss it? Never fear. I sat through five of the new comedies last week so you didn't have to. It was a dusty collection of what the networks' various brooms have brought us.

NBC, the network that brought the world "Friends" and "Frasier" and "ER" and "Third Rock From the Sun" and "Just Shoot Me" and "The West Wing" and "Will and Grace" and even "Stark Raving Mad" had no room left in its schedule for the three new shows they demoed last week, but they did it anyway. The only network you can count on to bring you good TV every single night of the week has apparently used up all its good sitcom writers. The minds who work on the new "Battery Park" and "Daddio" are not the same ones that produced the rest of the NBC schedule, and it shows.

"The Commish" (remember him?) is back as a stay-at-home dad who takes care of

the kids while Mom is off being a lawyer on "Daddio." It sounded like a good idea, but the jokes are predictable, the acting is lousy, and poorly-timed laugh track makes the already unfunny humor more irritating. This show is, in a word, horrible. The only thing that made me smile was the cute older son who spent the whole episode trying to con people into signing his homework form. He had some great facial expressions, but even that didn't have me bowled over with laughter.

"Daddio" was an obvious attempt at breaking stereotypes; aside from the nontraditional parental roles, the daughter

wants to join the all-male baseball team at school. The problem is, the characters end up being predictable, one-sided people—the rude neighbor, the yuppy family friend and her brain-dead husband—all stereotypical members of the traditional family sitcom cast. Overall verdict—If this show makes it to another week, do not watch it at all, ever.

You know why they never make cop shows comedies? Because they suck. NBC proved

it last week with "Battery Park," an attempt at showing the world how amusing it is when cops really don't care about the community. I don't remember this show ever actually having a plot, but that may be because I

the Devil, and Bob," and thank goodness. French Stewart and James Garner head up a cartoon cast that performs nicely with animation that is just priceless. When I saw the previews I thought the NBC execs were sure to end up in

Hell with Trey Parker and Matt Stone when they die, but their souls were saved by the classy way they managed to look at Christianity. Bob, it seems, has been chosen to prove the value of human life so that God won't destroy the Earth. The Devil makes every attempt to make Bob misbehave, but at the end of every episode he manages to pull off a victory for the good guys. God drinks light beer, wears sunglasses, and says "damn," whenever he feels like it. The Devil is British and drinks a triple margarita on the rocks with no salt. I laughed all the way through this show. It looks at family relationships and makes valuable points without all the

See SWEEPS pg. 5

DUST BUNNIES



The cast of "Then Came You" on ABC, including Desmond Askew at the right. (World Wide Web photo)



was so bored I switched over to "The Abyss" on Sci-Fi every so often. The only thing that was funny about this show was the guy who waited around all day to tell the cops that some girls were breaking into his apartment to have sex while he wasn't there. Overall verdict—This show will not last and is a total waste of your time.

So that leaves us with "God,

the good, the bad, and the ugly

television that stinks
and why we hate it

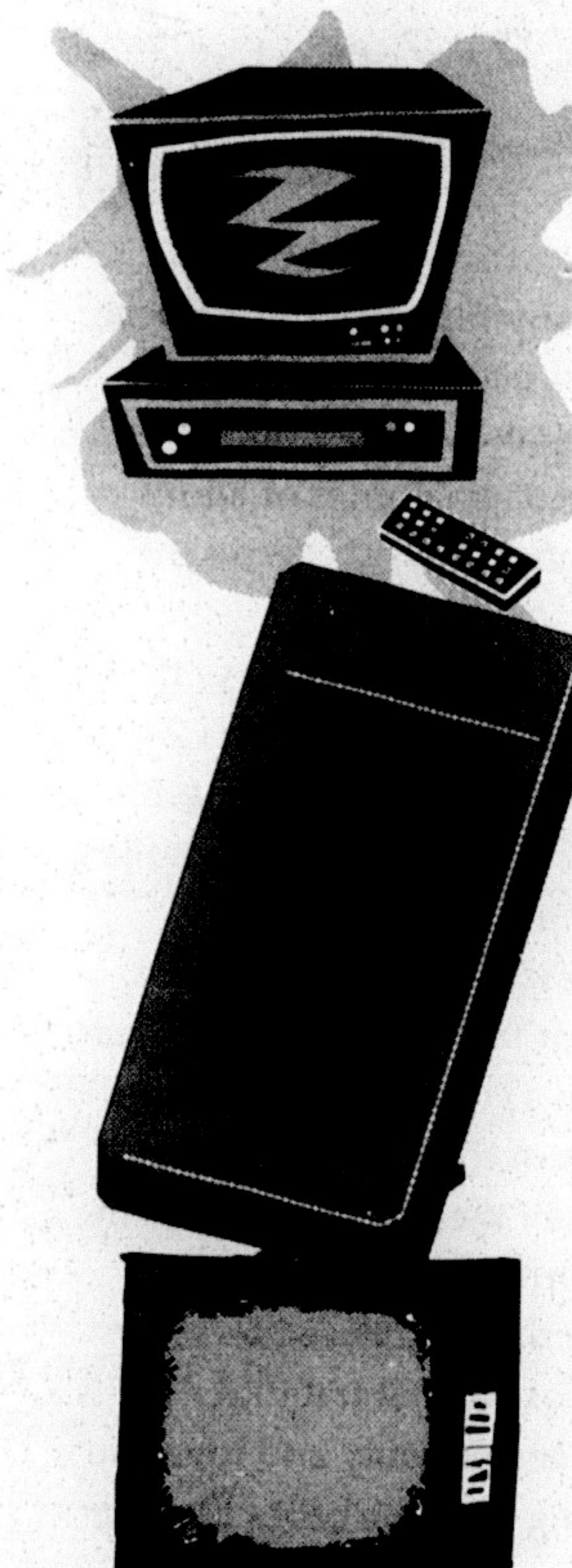
Kenny Smith
Staff Writer

It is laughable what can pass for television these days, but I suppose that's the point; most of the shows today are situation comedies. Half the shows on the tube are bad and the rest are worse.

OK, maybe I'm being a little harsh. There are some good shows out there. Some shows are consistently funny, or have good acting and writing, but the bad ones end up far outweighing the good. In fact, prime time line-ups are getting so weak that cable's ratings are better than ever.

So what's going on? Why has TV gone down the proverbial toilet? Well, it could be for a number of reasons: shifts in tastes of society, lack of public morality, subversive alien takeover, whatever you believe.

But it seems that our standards for TV have dropped. After all, Springer is still on, wrestling airs four nights a week and "Who Wants to be a Millionaire" is not only on top in the Nielsen ratings but it also has three rip-offs on other networks.



We're just accepting all of this as entertainment, but how bad is the stuff they put on? You need go no further than the Niensens to find out.

Number one on Nielsen (it's also two and three as well) is "Who Wants to be a Millionaire." How is this show making money? Is the public just that dumb, or can we not answer easy trivia? Most of the people on the show are absolute idiots; they miss some of the easiest questions. But maybe it just seems that way to those of us who know a lot of useless facts. Or maybe the contestants are morons. For instance, this one guy confused Queen Latifah's real name with Vanilla Ice's.

And what's up with Regis? Here's the dramatic moment:

"Is that your final answer?"

"Yes"

"Are you sure?"

"Yes."

"Positive?"

"Yes"

"You're really sure, eh?"

"Yes, dammit!"

And the contestants are funny in their explanations too because they're on TV so they must tell their whole life story.

"Where's the Eiffel Tower?"

"Well, I know that it isn't London because I was there twice in my life, once during the summer of '72 and the other ..."

No wonder it's an hour show. I just don't get it—it's a game show. No one cared that much on the "Price is Right," and at least there you could win a trip to the Bahamas. I'd rather win that trip. That way, there are no bum relatives beating down your door looking for money.

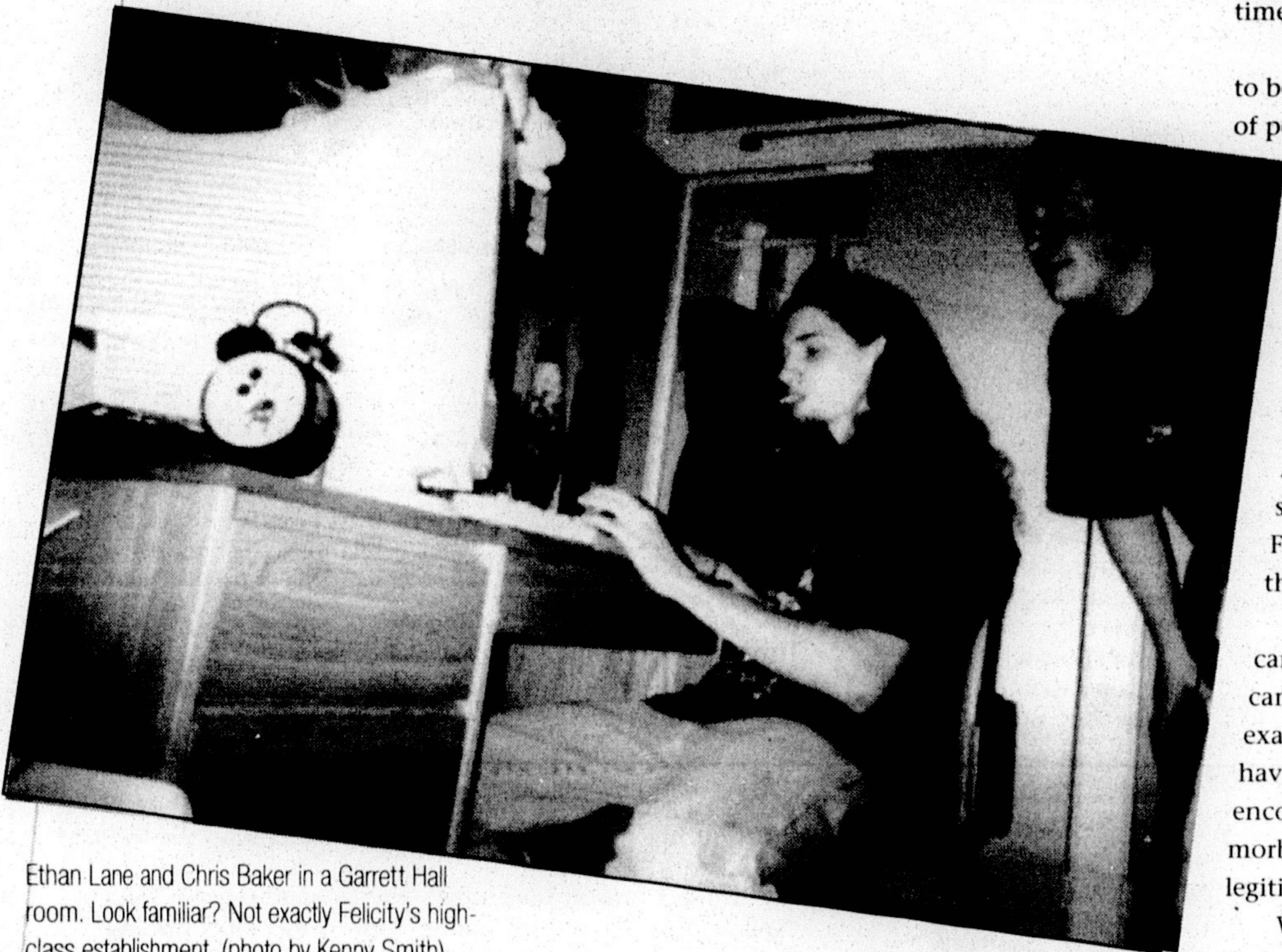
Hell, even good shows are falling through the entertain-

See TV pg. 5

POPULAR MISCONCEPTIONS

Hollywood images distort our college ways

D. Miccah Smith
FH Ace Reporter



Ethan Lane and Chris Baker in a Garrett Hall room. Look familiar? Not exactly Felicity's high-class establishment. (photo by Kenny Smith)

I hope you didn't come to school thinking your experience would be anything like the "college life" portrayed in most films. Frat parties, dating, student activities and just plain old college fun don't seem nearly as shiny as their cinematic and television counterparts. Have we been ripped off? Maybe. I'm starting to think most plots involving college life are the fevered imaginings of adults who think that school days are the best times anyone will ever have. But after one year living the reality, I hope they're wrong.

The first thing you probably found out was that dorm life, far from the barrel of monkeys those '80s Spring Break movies (or that entertainment wasteland known as "Saved by the Bell: The College Years") make it out to be, is not all about pizza, hijinks and wacky pranks. It's about cramming yourself into a tight little cubicle with a heater that makes demonic noises and a roommate who just loves show tunes. And the '90s have only brought on a fresh wave of deception.

Take a good look around your room. Your cinder block walls, sanitary plastic-coated mattress, municipal-gray closets and linkin' log furniture probably enjoy as much air time as the two-headed supermodel population. You wouldn't catch Felicity or Buffy showering in a communal bathroom where they'd have to wear flip flops just for kicking the used tampons out of the shower. Does any college-age character in your favorite drama ever have to promise not to tell the RA that she saw her hallmate's boyfriend throwing up all over the bathroom at four in the morning? I think not.

"Animal House" is another prime example of what's cracked about fictitious college life. How many poor teenage guys have been duped, thanks to that movie, into thinking that fraternity life is a raucous and fun bonding experience in a house filled with unforgettably brave, goofy and loveable guys who'll stop at nothing to right society's wrongs while totally swinging with the babes like the three Musketeers?

After paying outrageous dues to live in the frat house and subjecting themselves to the humiliation of a rush, these idealists have to face the reality that their brothers are ordinary humans who wear button-down shirts, go to class and spend their spare time spray-painting bed sheets.

And the parties? Good gravy! "Animal House" would lead you to believe that fraternity brothers achieve some supercharged level of personality and charisma when they're wasted. They wear sheets, go crazy, hire expensive soul music bands, dance and chase women 'til dawn.

I'm not saying ECU frat parties are any less exciting than those thrown by other people, but on the other hand they wouldn't exactly make John Belushi spin in his grave. I mean, the only thing a girl's got to worry about is the integrity of her Steve Madden platforms, which have a 91 percent chance of being splashed by some guy's Rolling Rock. And instead of funk, sweat and good times, everybody gets to stand around self-consciously in their best Abercrombie and Fitch, sipping keg dregs and trying to ignore the Kid Rock CD that's turned up too loud.

I remember watching "PCU" sometime during my college career, and noting to myself the grossly exaggerated number of campus activist groups featured in the film. Now, I know exaggeration was the point, but if I hadn't known better, I might have gotten the idea that healthy college campuses in some way encourage an interest in politics, art and philosophy, or at least a morbid curiosity about some social ill that people could pass off as legitimate concern.

While social reform groups, tree huggers, strident feminists and sport coat-wearing politicats are par for the course in "PCU," ECU's student social and political achievements are only worth mentioning because this is supposed to be a humorous article. I perceive ECU student involvement as falling into three separate categories, all of which contain completely polarized groups of students.

Number one is the couple of people who join both the "Young Republicans" and the "Young Democrats" groups, probably to get the most beer possible. Next comes the respectable grassroots core of socially conscious women and men, mostly freshmen, who leap out of the woodwork every time they get wind of an "AIDS vigil" or "Take Back the Night" march. Equally enthusiastic is the dedicated group of SGA and RHA kids out to let the world know that they can organize a semiformal dance, head a committee and pass out campaign flyers in front of the Wright Place, and all at the same time. None of those have the same kind of biting conviction of, say, the "Womynists" of PCU.

Was I too harsh in my assessment of reality? Probably, but it was really fun to write. Send your hate-mail to the address below, or just tackle me on the street. I'm not worried, because I know that kind of stuff only happens in movies.

This writer can be contacted at
msmith@studentmedia.ecu.edu.

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SWEEPS from p. 3

cheesiness that is feel-good sitcom. Overall verdict—watch this show.

Fox brought out its new stuff last week, too, in a show called "Titus." Fox should know better than to bring out a sitcom. They got lucky with "That Seventies Show," but they shouldn't push their luck. You just don't stray from the sci-fi, cartoon, "Ally McBeal" formula. Here's the plot: Christopher Titus is a guy living his life with his girlfriend and his dad. And that's pretty much it. I confess I only saw half of it, but what I saw seemed to be fairly ordinary. It wasn't a riot like "Bob," but it wasn't stupid like "Daddio." Overall verdict—it was just a show, mildly funny but not exciting. Watch it if you want to.

ABC brought us "Then Came You" last week, a fresh spin on the old romantic comedy that's come back into style. This one is about a young college graduate and an older divorcee who lives in the hotel where he works. There is some nice subtle humor here—the moment when the young guy accidentally keeps clanging

two glasses together in a period of awkward silence being the most memorable. Desmond Askew is far and away the best thing about this show. He's the British actor who played Simon in the film "Go," and he's playing pretty much the same character on "Then Came You." The problem with the show, at least with the first episode, is the speed with which it moved. Way too much happened in a half-hour period to be comfortable. I felt like I had missed some scenes that just weren't there. We ran through the first week of the show's key relationship in one episode, and it didn't give us enough time to know the characters. But that may change in the next episode now that the plot is established. Overall verdict—you may want to check this one out.

There's more new stuff on the air, but that's all I've been able to watch. You're on your own for the rest of them.

*This writer can be contacted at
fountainhead@studentmedia.ecu.edu.*

TU from p. 3

ment cracks. "Family Guy," despite good characters and clever writing, was pushed from its time slot by "WWF Smackdown" on UPN. Read over those three letters again just to make sure. UPN has never had a good show, much less one that has network clout. And speaking of UPN, they can't even succeed with a sure thing. Nobody watches "Star Trek Voyager," not even the diehard trekkies, it's that bad. Or "The Dilbert Show"—good premise and well written, but it's in the can now. In its place is a show called "Secret Agent Man." Draw your own conclusions.

And what about the WB? If it isn't one bad drama, it's another. "Dawson's Creek," "Charmed" and "Popular"—all those shows are just excuses to put more breasts on TV. Not that I'm complaining about that specifically, but what happened to standards, people? If we're going to have shows like that on, they at least have to have better stories, like "Buffy the Vampire Slayer." It sounded weak to start with, but it stayed on because of good writing and a cute star.

Speaking of dramas, why is "90210" still on the air? It's only got like four members from the original cast, and Donna is one of them. She should have died seasons ago from malnutrition, especially with all that silicon hanging from her chest.

Speaking of chests on TV, why on earth is "Baywatch" still on? Now it's "Baywatch Hawaii," and the only difference between them is that now you've

got Hawaiian chicks bouncing around the beach. Meanwhile, David Hasselhoff has gotta be taking some Dick Clark anti-aging cream or something. Germans still love him.

So, one might ask, what's good? Well, the dramas are getting better. "The Practice" and "Sports Night" to name a few. The really funny comedies are few and far between though, "Dharma and Greg" is good, and some CBS shows have promise. But Seinfeld is gone and "The Simpsons" are leaving after this season. What will replace these masters of humor? It's looking a little bleak.

The cable networks are starting to put out better stuff to make up for network failures. Comedy Central and Cartoon Network are getting good original shows and recycling old favorites. MTV is still MTV, even if the only thing they show these days is N'Sync.

Speaking of that, ever watch "TRL" on a regular basis? It seems like every day it's a contest to see which fans of which boy band can call in the most. Not that there's any real difference between the bands. Do these girls just have no lives where all they do is organize calling crusades to "TRL?" It baffles this writer.

But as I said, there are good shows out there on the idiot box. You just have to sift through all the crap which is, I'm sorry to say, very, very thick.

This writer can be contacted at ksmith@studentmedia.ecu.edu.

CLIMBING ROCKS

Rec Center makes it easy to learn

Emily Little
Fountainhead Editor

You've seen the climbing wall at the rec center. You've watched other people do it, you've seen it on ESPN2 during the X-Games, but it just seems too hard to try. Not so, say the rock climbers at ECU. This university provides an excellent opportunity for anyone to learn.

"Anyone can get started," said Cathy Black, a climber who works at the rec center. "It's not that hard."

Black had never climbed until her sophomore year of college when she got hooked after one trip up the climbing wall. Now she accompanies her fellow adventure seekers on sojourns up mountain sides.

The rec center's climbing wall is the perfect place to start. It costs \$5 for first-time users, plus an additional \$2 for harness rental. Advanced climbers are always below waiting to catch your rope if

you slip, so there's nothing to fear.

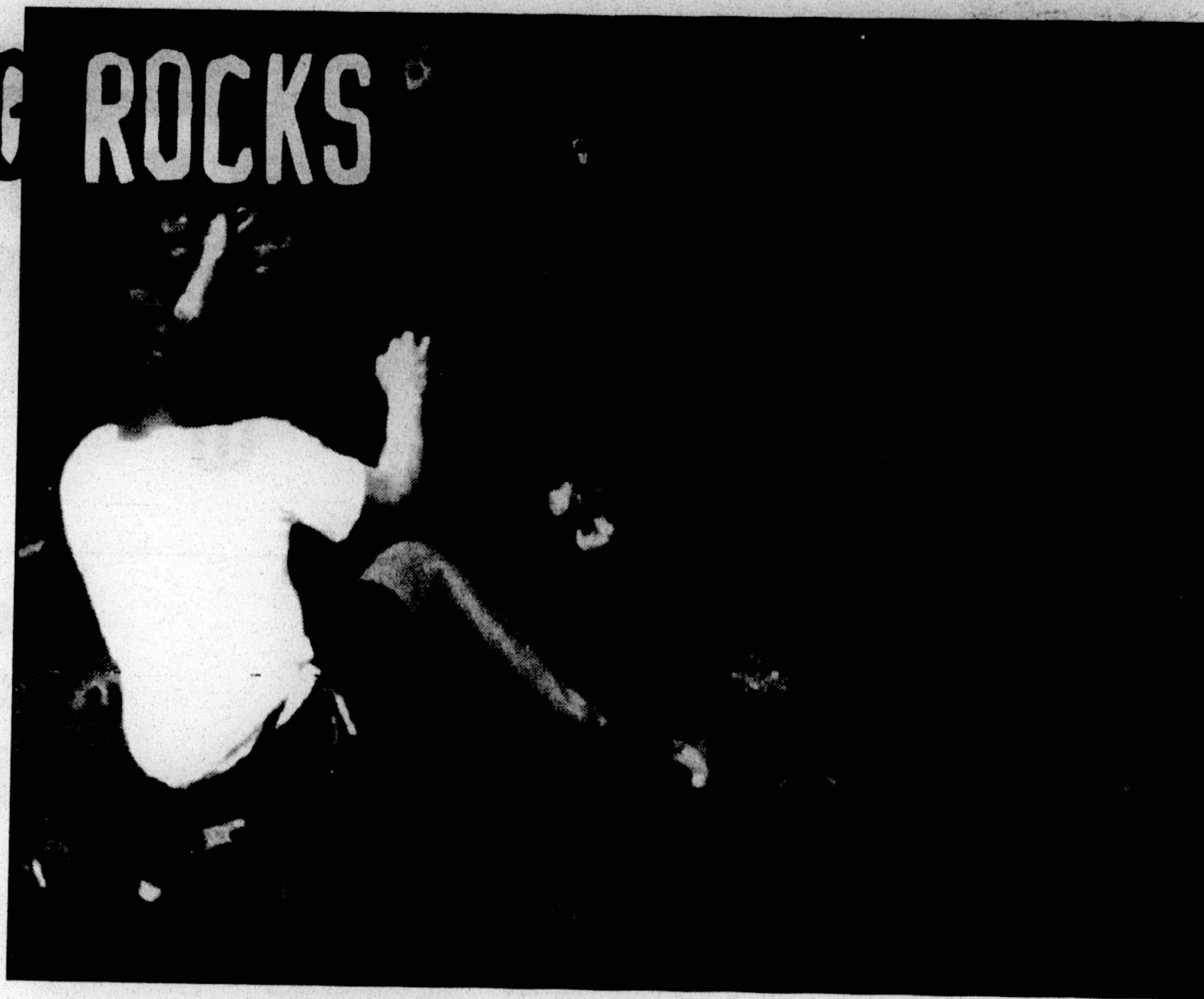
"If you're safe about what you're doing you'll be fine," Black said.

When you're ready, the Adventure Program offers opportunities to try the real thing, such as a haul up the face of a mountain. John Brown, coordinator of Adventure Programs, heads up the trips several times a year. But, he says it's nothing like what you've seen on ESPN. This is no speedy run up the side of a man-made wall; this is where the action really lies.

"The extreme stuff is definitely not being done on artificial walls," Brown said.

The real extreme rock climbing, according to Brown, is done with grit and determination, out in the unpredictable wild. That's why any student at ECU has a chance to try it for less money than it would cost any other way. A day trip to Winston-Salem to climb Pilot Mountain costs only \$30 a person, including transportation and equipment.

If the trips don't fill up fast, they have a tendency to not fill up at all. So, if you're interested



Senior Josh Weaver climbs the wall at the Student Recreation Center. (photo by Kenny Smith)

in going, you should sign up soon. This, however, will have to wait until next semester, since the last trip for Spring 2000 has already come and gone.

The reward for all of this climbing is, of course, getting to the top. Most of the climbers find this experience more exciting than performing in front of a crowd.

"I don't think of it as a competition," Black said. "When you climb it's for yourself."

Brown agrees that competition is not the way to truly learn the rewards of climbing.

"The people who climb in [competitions] are really not the best climbers," Brown said. For more information, stop by the Student Recreation Center or call 328-6387.

This writer can be contacted at fountainhead@studentmedia.ecu.edu.

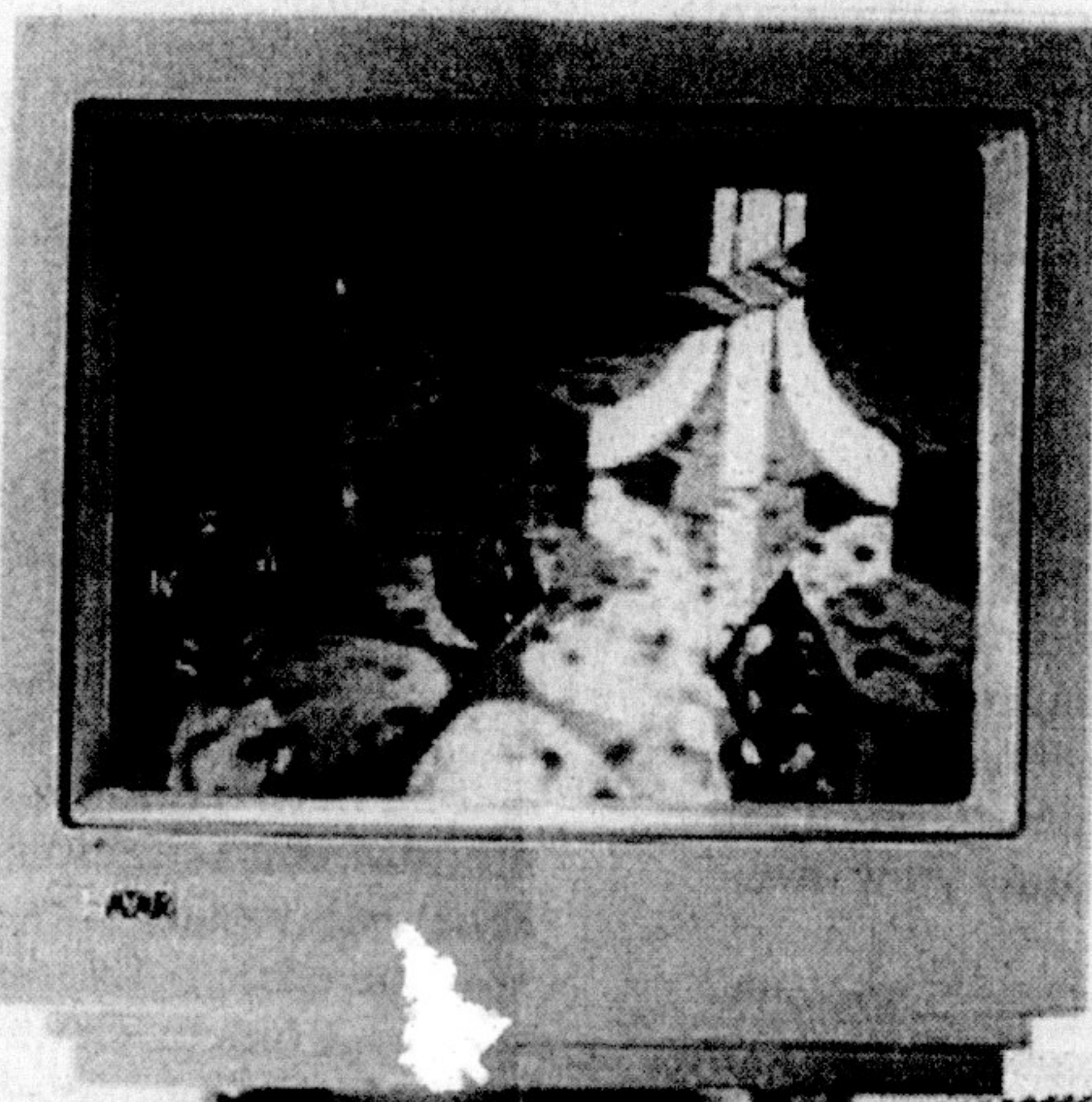
Weird stuff: *Satantronic*

Lawrence Armstrong
Staff Writer

Here's something you haven't seen before. Satantronic is an Internet site for people still using Atari computers from the late '80s to early '90s. It has some cool graphics (good Japanese art) and some software for these old machines. There are profiles of some of the programmers and what projects they are working on. For example, Dodo, whose real name is Jozef Friedmansky, uses a setup of an Atari 130 XE (circa 1986) with 128k RAM and a MDDOS cartridge, which you may not be familiar with. It seems to be some sort of Disk Operating System software.

A Command and Conquer-type game for the Atari Falcon 030 is also in the works. This system was produced from 1992-1994 with 4-16 MB RAM and was used in professional music studios. It can plug directly in to synthesizers and drum machines and can sample sound at higher than CD quality. You probably own some music CDs that were mixed on this system.

Satantronic appears to be a Slovakian site because of the weird names, bad English, and Slovak language version of the page being offered as an option. Their games and demos all run on PAL systems. PAL is the standard for television in Europe. In the US, it is called NTSC. For example, your Nintendo



uses an NTSC signal to connect to your TV. This page is simple, to the point and fast. You should have a look, especially if you like Japanese manga.

These hobbyists still use computers that are six to 80 years old because they consider systems such as the Falcon more advanced and with better features than those made today. As it turns out, this is not far from the truth. Despite the age, the Atari systems can easily keep up with current technology by running such programs as an MP3 player and CD recorder. The most important features of the Falcon was that it could use its hard drive as a recordable CD, but with higher than CD quality. It also featured a built-in interface for connecting to synthesizers and other musical equipment, and it is prized by musicians to this day for that reason.

The portable notebook computer with this interface made by Atari can be seen on the Internet selling for up to \$800 or more despite being more than 10 years old. To find a Gateway or Dell PC that old you would need to go to the landfill and dig one up because they are not worth anything. The Musical Instrument Digital Interface is what makes the Atari systems so indispensable and valuable.

Satantronic can be located at www.napri.sk/web/satantronic.

This writer can be contacted at larmstrong@studentmedia.ecu.edu.

MIDNIGHT BOWLING

Emily Little
Fountainhead Editor

The mirror ball, the black light, the thumping hip hop music, the pitcher of beer all around, the smoky haze in the air; it's almost like being in a club. Until you hear the thunder and clatter of a big heavy ball knocking down a handful of helpless little pins at the end of the lane.

We call it midnight bowling, but it actually ends somewhere around 11:45 when the downtownish feel evaporates into fluorescent lighting and the magical game of bowling turns back into a pumpkin so we can all go home.

Some of my friends said bowling without drinking was impossible; they said it couldn't be done, but someone just has to have the courage to stand up and bowl sober. So, I enlisted the help of my friends Mia and Doug to prove it recently on a Monday night at the AMF lanes on Red Banks Road.

Personally, between the strobe lights, the pounding music and the imitation cigarette smoke that pours from a vent in the ceiling, I fail to see how anyone can concentrate when you add in the beer. My scores are bad enough as it is.

It costs \$7 per person to bowl. I have a question: Are you paying for the shoes or the use of the actual lane? What if you bring your own bowling shoes? Because I went to a bowling birthday party once when I was a kid and one of the other party guests neglected to return his shoes. It was one of those places where they keep your shoes because they're afraid of just that very thing. So, the kid had to leave the party that had already moved elsewhere to return to the bowling alley to get his shoes.

Speaking of shoes, is it just me, or is there some kind of weird dimensional shoe rift at the bowling alley? I wear nine-and-a-half-size shoes, otherwise known as the size that you will never find in the shoe that you really want. I can't wear size 10 and I can't wear nines. But at the bowling alley, they apparently don't carry half sizes. So, they always give me a nine. The weird thing is, the nine always fits. Are the shoes just bigger at the bowling alley or do my feet shrink when I bowl?

But, back to my original concern before I got sidetracked by the great shoe mystery: What exactly do you pay for when you bowl? Four people pay \$7 a piece to use the same lane that two people pay \$7 a piece for. It's a weird, weird world, that bowling alley. Then there's the \$500 basket of french fries and \$1 million ice cup that may contain an ounce or two of Coke. When we went, we didn't buy any food because we were broke from the \$7 shoe rental. But, Garrett the photographer got a Coke and I drank a good portion of

that when he wasn't looking.

There is an arcade at the bowling alley, but we didn't have any extra money to play. Too bad, because I was at one time the master of Ski-Ball. No, we spent most of our time just chucking our balls down the lane and occasionally knocking down a pin or two. It was a calm few games because we weren't drunk.

Mia had an injured ankle that made her sadly limp up to the lane and struggle to release her ball. That was mildly amusing. I got really excited at one point because I had big old score of 85 on the 10th frame and Doug was way behind. I thought that for the first time ever I was going to win at a sport, and it wasn't going to be because the other guy accidentally scratched while shooting for the eight ball. Then, that rat bastard hit two strikes in a row and beat me by one point.

Then came the part of the night when they suddenly turned on the lights. Without the black light I couldn't figure out which was



(Top) Mia is very concerned about the score because she's losing. (Bottom left) Just look at Doug as he casually ruins my life. (Bottom right) That is a size nine, boys and girls. (photos by Garrett McMillan)



my bowling ball. It was very traumatic.

Overall, bowling was a relaxing kind of fun, though not as much fun as some of the other stuff I've done for this column. I think it would be better if they nixed the black light and the Christina Aguilera. If I wanted the club atmosphere, I would go to the club. And, I would be able to wear my own ordinary nine-and-a-half-size shoes.

**This writer can be contacted at
fountainhead@studentmedia.ecu.edu.**



(Above left) Danger Mouse has got it all over Space Ghost and Deputy Dog. (Jaime Lockard)
(Above right) Do I really have to choose? They're all so cuddly!

the back page

tec asks: who gets your vote in 2000?

Photos by Bill Keith



(Right) I'm voting for the the guy that brought midget-tossing to Greenville. (Stewie Sineath)
(Bottom left) I'm starting a write-in campaign for Patrick McMahon. Power to the people! (Christina Thompson)
(Bottom right) I'm not allowed to vote. I'm an escaped convict. (Bob Witchgar)

