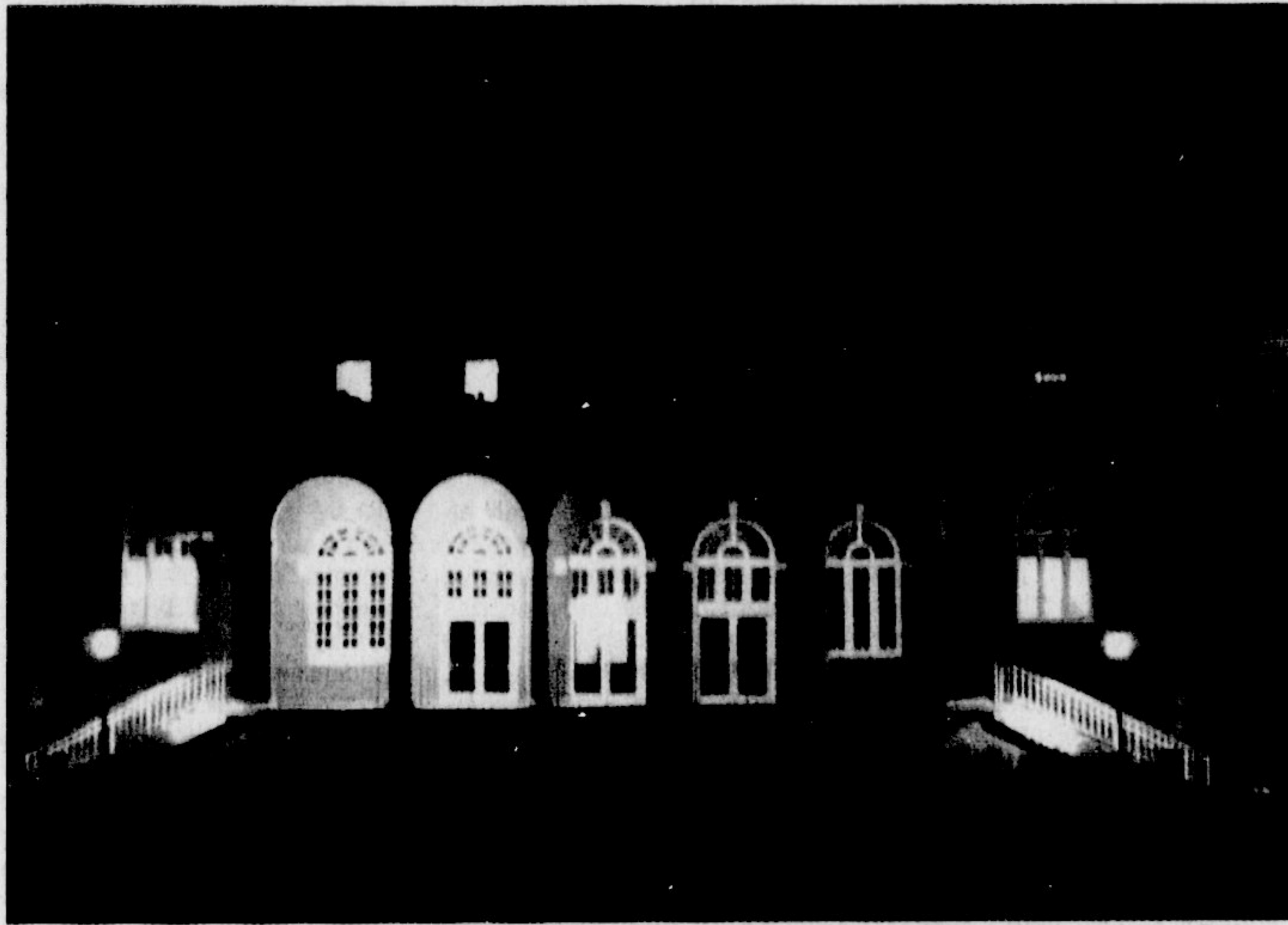


ECU hosts Fall Open House starting Saturday morning at various locations



The Fall Open House will take place on Saturday at various locations around campus.

Prospective students may choose from a variety of events

TAYLEIGH DAVIS
STAFF WRITER

Kathy Bernstein, planner and assistant director of admissions at ECU, said 2,000 people have already signed up for Fall Open House, which begins Saturday, Nov. 12.

Open House is for all students who are still deciding whether they will apply to ECU.

"It's important we make ECU look nice and we want to show them everything our university has offer," said Bernstein.

Open House lasts from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. and during that time students can choose from a number of events offered.

Beginning at 9 a.m., the opening session will include a welcome from Don Joyner, assistant vice chancellor for academic services along

with the Mayor Don Parrot and Thomas Powell, director of admissions.

From 9:30 a.m. to noon, the Academic Fair in Bate building will begin. Professors from every department at ECU will be available on the first floor to speak with students and answer questions they may have.

On the second floor, Student Life will have information tables set up. Representatives will be available to speak with students about Campus Safety, Campus Living, Greek Life, Student Transit and Health Services among many other student-life related topics.

Two 30-minute "special sessions" will be held beginning at 9:45 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. in the Science and Technology building.

"The first session will cover the admissions process, in case someone hasn't applied and the other will cover the multicultural student panel where students can see what type of

diversity ECU has on Campus," Bernstein said.

The sessions will also include information on general requirements for degrees and the Honors Program.

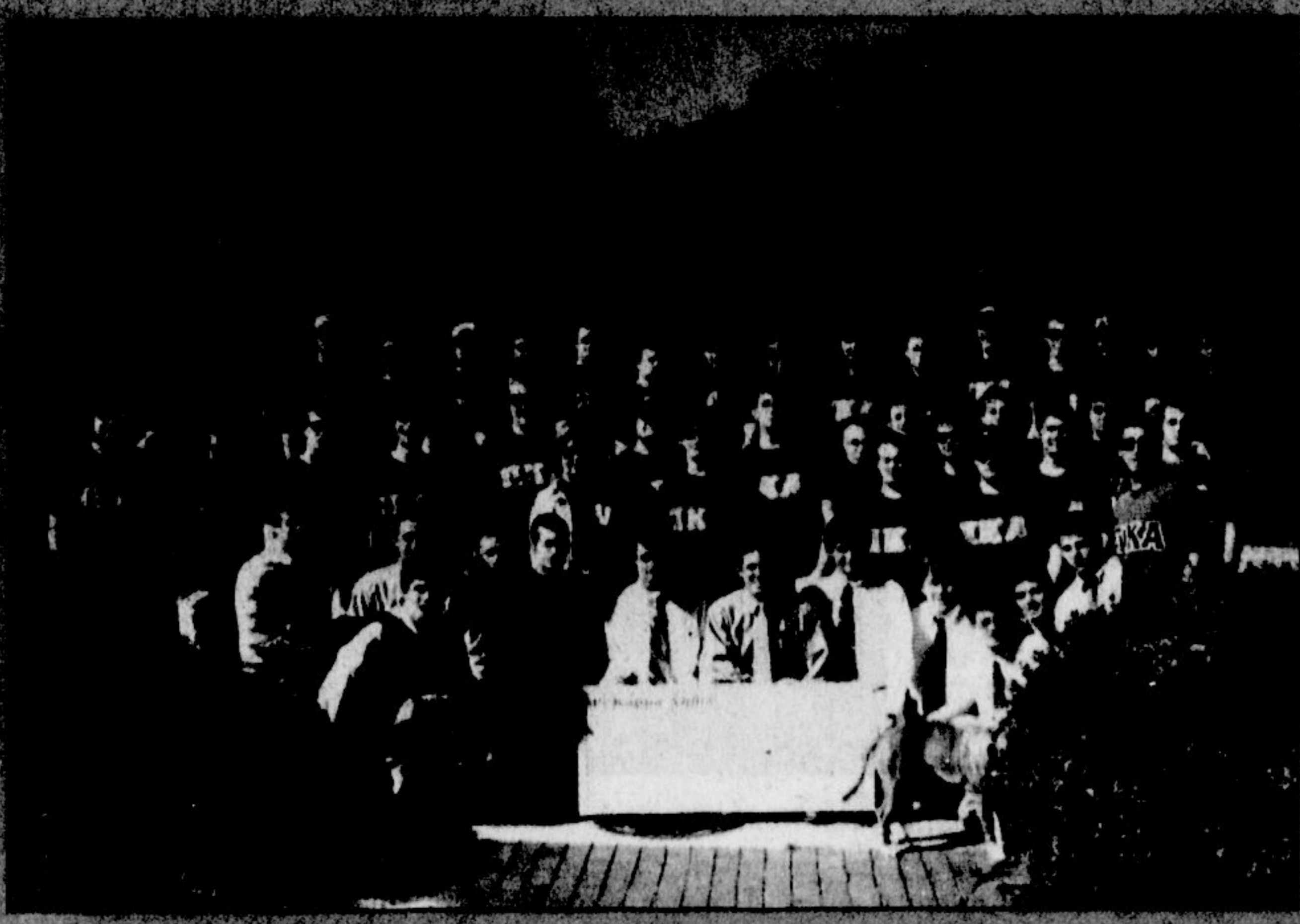
Lasting from 9:45 a.m. to noon, Student Ambassadors and the Alumni Association will provide walking tours and bus tours for students and parents.

Six buses will serve as shuttles in the morning getting people from the stadium parking lot at Minges over to Central Campus where Open House takes place. Around 9:30 in the morning, the buses will switch over to tours where they will show people around in main campus including the dorms in that area.

During lunch break between 11 a.m. and noon, students can go to the Financial Aid workshop which will be open from 11 a.m. to noon. They can also use their \$5 meal card to eat at

see SATURDAY page A2

PI Kappa Alpha does walk for Ronald McDonald House



The members of ECU's Pi Kappa Alpha walked to Wilmington this past weekend to raise money for the Ronald McDonald House of Greenville. On Friday morning, Pi Kappa Alpha presented a check to Phyllis Fife, on behalf of the Ronald McDonald House, for the amount of \$15,750. This is their fourth Annual Walk to Wilmington bringing their total to a little more than \$50,000 in the past four years. After the ceremony in Wright Plaza, members of the fraternity walked down Fifth street together with the help of Greenville Police. After that, groups took turns walking all 120 miles down to Wilmington where they had another ceremony Saturday afternoon around 3 p.m. in Wilmington with all the brothers to end the walk.

Vascular surgeons take steps in treating condition

First-of-its-kind device proves successful in treating certain kinds of aneurysms

RACHEL KING
STAFF WRITER

As of March, when the Food and Drug Administration approved it, a new, minimally invasive device has been used to treat thoracic aortic aneurysms and other related thoracic aortic conditions.

At the Brody School of Medicine, the device has been used twice in the last six weeks. According to Dr. Steven Powell, chief of vascular surgery at the Brody School of Medicine, doctors may soon treat 30 or more patients a year using the device.

Thoracic aortic aneurysms are abnormal bulges in the thoracic aorta, which is the main artery that carries blood to the body. Aneurysms can rupture if left untreated, causing internal bleeding that is potentially fatal.

The technique, performed under general anesthesia, involves making a four-inch incision in the groin, where the femoral artery can be accessed. From there, surgeons can thread a reinforced tube containing a graft up the artery to the thoracic aorta, which is near the heart. The graft is then positioned using X-ray guidance, where it can be deployed inside the aneurysm. The purpose of this is to "reinforce the weakened aortic wall and relieve the pressure that could cause a rupture."

It is far more preferable than the other ways thoracic aortic aneurysms have been treated in the past. Traditionally, doctors have had to resort to open-chest surgery. Unfortunately, all people do not qualify for that. Even if a patient does qualify, the complication rate is "in the 30-40 percent range," said Dr. Michael Stoner, assistant professor of surgery at the Brody School of Medicine.

That compares to only "a 5-10 percent complication rate" with the new technique. Another benefit is the time it takes after the procedure to heal. With open-chest surgery, recovery time is twice as long as it is with the new technique. If all goes well with open-chest surgery, a patient may stay 10 - 14 days in the hospital versus one day with the new procedure. Basically, there is a "dramatic decrease" in complications with the new procedure, Stoner said.

What did patients with this condition do if they were not good candidates for open-chest surgery? Mostly, they were treated with medications and a "wait-and-see" approach.

"One of the only drawbacks we know of is that this is the first go-around for this device's use for thoracic aortic problems," Stoner said.

"It's newer. We don't know how durable it is and whether, 10 years from now, the patients are going to have problems or not."

For most patients, though, this new procedure will be the way to go.

"The problems that may exist now may be fixed 10 years from now because the companies producing them will continue to improve these devices," Stoner said.

In addition to this new, cutting-edge procedure, ECU doctors are working to establish a center for "the treatment of patients with complex aortic problems under the auspices of the Eastern Carolina Cardiovascular Institute," Stoner said.

"It's in the planning stages."

"The cardiovascular center will break ground in January, and the [aortic part of the treatment center] will be a part of that."

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

Biologist receives NSF grant

Studies protein involved in photosynthesis

JOSHUA CONNER
STAFF WRITER

Cindy Putnam-Evans, professor of biology, received a three-year grant from the National Science Foundation, totaling nearly \$280,000, to further study the role of protein CP43 during photosynthesis.

Putnam-Evans said she applied for the grant in January and received the funding in August. This is her fourth research based grant from the NSF.

Putnam-Evans will study how CP43 reacts and splits water molecules during photosynthesis. By replacing an amino acid found in CP43 with a different amino acid and then inserting the protein into blue-green algae, she would be able to see what affects the changed protein has on photosynthesis.

"We've shown that this protein is intimately involved in the water splitting reaction ... then this is still one of the important and unsolved questions about the water splitting reaction," said Putnam-Evans.

"And that is exactly how it occurs. The exact catalytic mechanism is unknown at this point, but we're getting closer."

According to Putnam-Evans, CP43 plays a critical role in the processes of oxygen evolution and light harvesting.

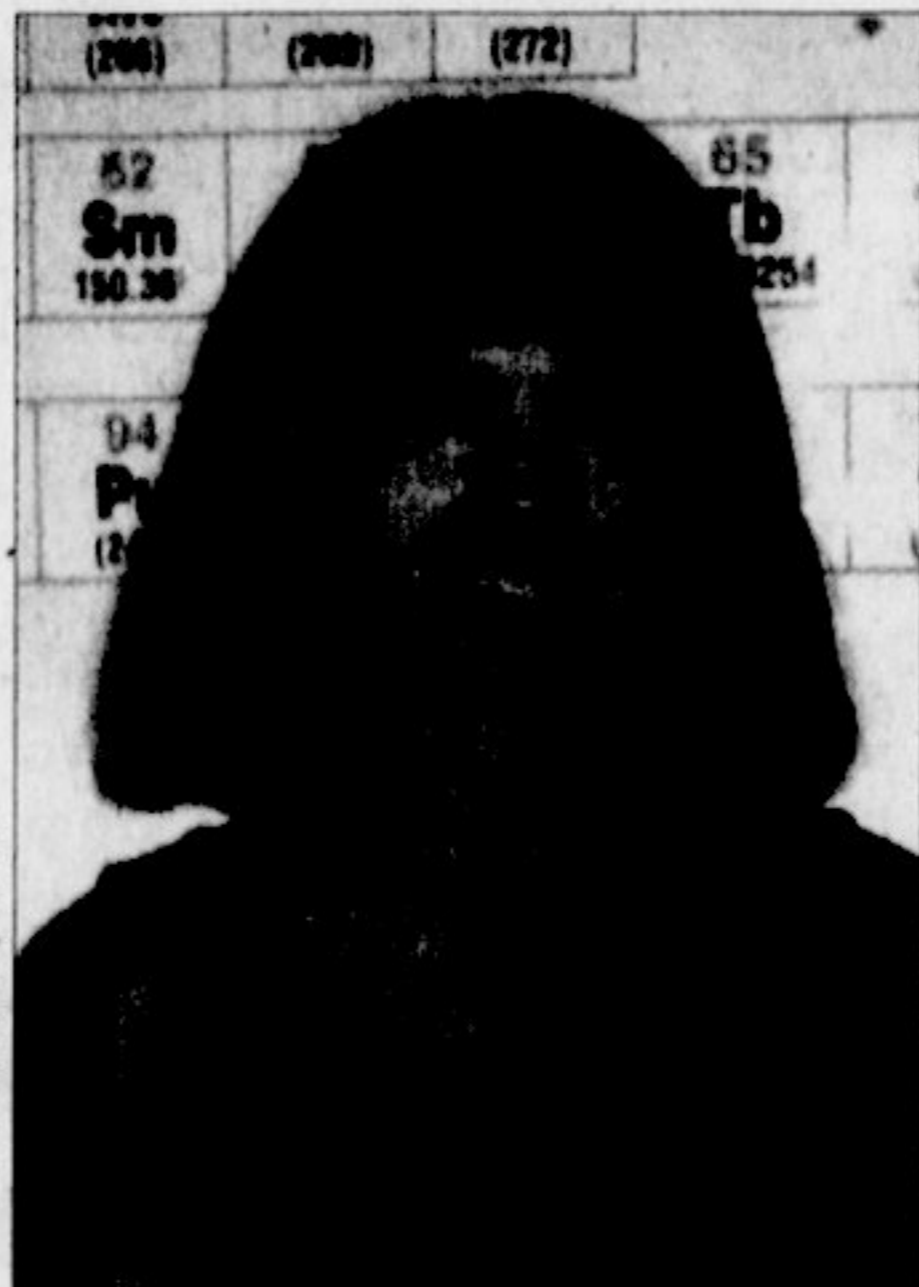
"That's important because oxygen evolution by Photosystem II is virtually the only source of oxygen on the planet and almost all forms of life depend upon that oxygen source for survival," Putnam-Evans said.

According to Putnam-Evans, understanding CP43 could have a profound impact on agriculture.

"When you're talking about agriculture you're talking about crop production, right? Crop yield ... you're increasing your yield if you can increase the efficiency, right, of photosynthesis, which is already a very efficient process," Putnam-Evans said.

According to Putnam-Evans, studying photosynthesis has helped agriculture in terms of crop improvement and the development of new herbicides.

The grant, which is a renewal grant, provides funds for two graduates and two undergraduates to assist Putnam-Evans with her research.



PUTNAM-EVANS

Putnam-Evans, who came to ECU in 1993 from Louisiana State University where she was doing post-doctoral work, has researched CP43 for the past 12 years, and said she has had NSF funding for that research since 1994.

Putnam-Evans earned her undergraduate degree at Gardner Webb University and went on to earn a master's degree at Clemson and a doctoral degree at the University of Georgia.

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



France has a history of rioting and civic unrest. Reports show rioting in 226 towns in France.

France declares state of emergency to impose curfews against rioting

PARIS (AP) — President Jacques Chirac declared a state of emergency Tuesday, paving the way for curfews to be imposed on riot-hit cities and towns in an extraordinary measure to halt France's worst civil unrest in decades after 12 nights of violence.

Police, meanwhile, said overnight unrest Monday-Tues-

day, while still widespread and destructive, was not as violent as previous nights.

"The intensity of this violence is on the way down," National Police Chief Michel Gaudin said, citing fewer attacks on public buildings and fewer direct clashes between youths and police. He said rioting was reported in 226 towns across France, compared to

nearly 300 the night before

The state-of-emergency decree invoked under a 50-year-old law allows curfews where needed and will become effective at midnight Tuesday, with an initial 12-day limit. Police massively reinforced as the violence has fanned out from its initial

see FRANCE page A2

Announcements

Dances

The ECU Folk and Country Dancers will sponsor a disco dance and a contra dance from 8 - 11 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 12 at the Willis Building located downtown on First and Reade Streets. DJs will be on hand to provide music. Beginner lessons will begin at 7:30. There is a potluck supper at 6 p.m. for the contra dance. Tickets for each event are \$3 for students, \$5 for FASG members, and \$8 for the public. This is an alcohol and smoke free event. For more information call 752-7350.

Charity Fashion Show

The Apparel and Interiors Merchandising Organization will present "Ripped, Torn and Fabulous," a charity fashion event, at 9 p.m. Friday, Nov. 11 at Club Aqua. Tickets can be purchased in advance at Wright Place or for \$5 at the door. All proceeds will benefit Give2theTroops.

Asian Studies Lecture

The 2005-2006 ECU Lecture in Asian Studies "Zen Hermits and Zen Samurai" has been rescheduled for Wednesday, Nov. 9 from 4 - 5:30 p.m. in Science and Technology Building OC-307. The lecture is sponsored by the Harriot College of Arts and Sciences, the Interdisciplinary Program in Asian Studies, the History Department, Phi Kappa Phi, the Honor's Program and the Office of International Affairs and will feature Steven Heine, Professor of Religion at Florida International University.

Gospel Choir

The ECU gospel choir will perform at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 15 in Wright Auditorium. Tickets are \$3 with a student ID and \$5 for general admission. For more information, call Tarrick Cox at 328-1518.

The Importance of Being Earnest

Oscar Wilde's play *The Importance of Being Earnest* will begin performances on Thursday, Nov. 17 and will run through Tuesday, Nov. 22. Performances will be held in McGinnis Theatre. Tickets are \$12 for the general public, \$10 for senior citizens and ECU faculty and staff, and \$8 for ECU students. For more information, call 318-6829 or 1-800-ECU-ARTS.

Chamber Choir

The ECU Chamber Singers will perform Durufle's Requiem at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 13 at St. Paul's Episcopal Church. The event is free to the public. For more information, visit music.ecu.edu/music_calendar or call 328-4270.

Professor Honored

Dozens of people will read from multicultural works in honor of the life and career of ECU English professor Gay Wilentz from 4 - 6 p.m. Monday, Nov. 14 in C209 of the Science and Technology Building. For more information, contact Michael Bassman at 328-6373.

Brewster Lecture

The ECU Brewster Lecture "A Tale of Three Cities: How the U.S. won WWII" will be presented at 8 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 16 in Science and Technology Building room OC-307. ECU's history department and the Harriot College of Arts and Sciences will host the 24th annual Lawrence F. Brewster Lecture in History. David Kennedy, the Donald J. McLachlan Professor of History at Stanford University, will offer the guest lecture.

Fall Open House

ECU will host its annual fall open house Saturday, Nov. 12. The event is an opportunity for those interested in attending ECU to learn more about the university. Campus tours are provided along with an Academic and Student Life Fair. Call 328-6640 or 328-4965 for more information.

Japan League

Meetings are on Thursdays from 5 - 9 p.m. in Bate 1010. Japan League is a Japanese film club that shows movies of all kinds as well as television shows and animation. They can be visited online at jlpatternblue.net.

Local

UNC-Wilmington sends notices about news segment about murders

WILMINGTON, NC (AP) - Officials at the University of North Carolina-Wilmington have sent letters and e-mails to students, parents, faculty, staff and alumni about a nationally televised news segment about the murders of two students last year. University spokeswoman Mimi Cunningham said the university did not want the community to be surprised by the show. School officials also wanted to make sure the community knew about the new programs and safety measure, Cunningham said.

"We have cooperated with the producer in providing information, but, of course, we have no control over how the information will be presented," Chancellor Rosemary DePaolo wrote in the letter. "I am writing to make you aware of how UNCW has responded to these untimely deaths and to help you respond should the program raise questions for your friends or family." Christen Marie Naujoks, 22, and Jessica Lee Faulkner, 19, were both killed in 2004.

Faulkner was shot in her dorm May 5. Fellow student Curtis Dixon was charged with kidnapping, raping and murdering her. He committed suicide in December while in custody. Naujoks was shot to death June 4, allegedly by former boyfriend, John Brian Peck. Peck, a former UNCW student, killed himself three days later as he fled from police.

The news segment on the murders is scheduled to air at 10 p.m. Nov. 17 on ABC News Primetime. The date is subject to change.

Letters went to the families of 11,600 students, Cunningham said. E-mail messages were sent to all students and to more than 13,000 people on an alumni list, 1,900 university and faculty staff, and 300 members of

the university's leadership boards, she said.

National

Five terror suspects charged as Supreme Court sets up spring showdown over military trials

WASHINGTON (AP) - Five suspected al-Qaida terrorists, including one accused of killing a U.S. Special Forces medic, are the latest Guantanamo Bay detainees headed for the kind of military trials that now face a Supreme Court review.

The high court agreed Monday to consider a constitutional challenge to military trials for foreign terror suspects. The justices will decide whether President Bush overstepped his authority with plans for a military trial for Osama bin Laden's former driver, who is also being held at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

His trial and those of three other terror suspects who were charged more than a year ago would be the first such tribunals since World War II. The five newly charged suspects, who have been held in the U.S. detention center in Cuba since 2002, will also have a stake in the Supreme Court hearing.

Meanwhile, key members of Congress are pushing for a ban on torture and other inhumane treatment of prisoners in U.S. custody. The White House has threatened to veto the defense-spending bill if the ban is included.

"America's image throughout the world is very bad," said Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., a former prisoner of war in Vietnam. "Misreatment of prisoners is one of the factors that has caused us to suffer so much in the eyes of the world." Besides being cruel and inhumane, McCain said Tuesday on CBS' "The Early Show," "torture doesn't work."

The five suspects charged Monday embody the military's most daunting challenge: the use of homemade roadside bombs or improvised

explosive devices that are the No. 1 killer of troops in Iraq. Toronto-born Omar Khadr was charged with murder, attempted murder, aiding the enemy and conspiracy, for allegedly tossing a grenade that killed a U.S. Special Forces medic while fighting with the Taliban in Afghanistan, planting mines to target U.S. convoys, and gathering surveillance.

The other four Ghassan Abdullah al Sharbi and Jabran Said bin al Qahtani of Saudi Arabia; Sufyan Barhoumi of Algeria; and Binyam Ahmed Muhammad of Ethiopia were charged with conspiracy. Barhoumi allegedly was an al-Qaida explosives trainer who taught al Qahtani and al Sharbi how to build remote-detonation explosive devices. And al Qahtani allegedly wrote two instruction manuals on how to build timing devices for roadside bombs. Muhammad was allegedly trained to build dirty bombs and was planning terror attacks against high-rise apartment buildings in the United States.

Their prospects for a full trial are now in the hands of the Supreme Court a troubling development for the White House, which has been battered by criticism of its treatment of detainees and was rebuked by the high court last year for holding enemy combatants in legal limbo. The court's announcement came shortly after Bush, asked about reports of secret U.S. prisons in Eastern Europe for terrorism suspects, declared anew that his administration does not torture anyone.

"Anything we do to that end in this effort, any activity we conduct, is within the law. We do not torture," he said.

Chief Justice John Roberts took himself out of the case because, as a judge on the court that considered the appeal, he supported the government's position.

The case the court will decide involves Salim Ahmed Hamdan, who was

captured in Afghanistan in November 2001. He denies conspiring to engage in acts of terrorism and denies he was a member of al-Qaida. He has been charged with conspiracy to commit war crimes, murder and terrorism. There are about 500 detainees being held at Guantanamo.

World

Defense attorney in Saddam Hussein's trial killed and another lawyer wounded in drive-by shooting

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) - Three gunmen in a speeding car killed a lawyer for a co-defendant in Saddam Hussein's trial and wounded another attorney Tuesday in Baghdad, a member of the defense team and police said.

Adel al-Zubeidi, who was representing former Iraqi Vice President Taha Yassin Ramadan, was shot to death and attorney Tamir al-Khuzale was wounded in the ambush in the Adil neighborhood, according to lawyer Khamees Hamid al-Ubaidi. Al-Zubeidi was the second defense attorney to be killed in less than a month.

Saddam's main lawyer, Khalil al-Dulaimi, blamed the government for Tuesday's attack, telling Al-Jazeera television that the shooting was carried by "an armed group using government vehicles."

He called for moving Saddam and his colleagues into a neutral country. Al-Dulaimi said defense lawyers do not recognize the trial's next date, which comes on Nov. 28.

A police general said the attack occurred when three gunmen in a speeding car pulled alongside the lawyers' vehicle and opened fire. The general spoke on condition of anonymity because the sensitive case was in the early stages of investigation.

Al-Zubeidi also represented Abdullah Kazim Ruwayyid, a former Baath party official. Saddam and seven others have

been charged with the 1982 killings of Shiite villagers in Dujail, a town north of Baghdad, following an assassination attempt. The trial opened Oct. 19 and was suspended until Nov. 28 to allow the defense time to prepare its case.

On Oct. 20, Saadoun al-Janabi, was abducted from his office by 10 masked gunmen, a day after he attended the first session of the trial, acting as the lawyer for co-defendant Awad al-Bandar.

Al-Janabi's body, with two bullet shots to the head, was found hours later on a sidewalk near Fardous Mosque in the eastern neighborhood of Ur in Baghdad, near the site of his office.

The assassination of a second lawyer associated with the trial was likely to raise new questions about whether this country can conduct such a sensitive prosecution in the midst of insurgency and domestic turmoil. Following al-Janabi's death, members of the defense team said they had suspended further dealings with the special court until their safety is guaranteed.

Al-Ubaidi said that the entire defense team had rejected an offer of guards from the Interior Ministry, pointing to frequent Sunni Arab accusations that ministry forces or Shiite militias linked to the government have killed members of the minority that was dominant under Saddam.

He said then that they were talking with U.S. officials about getting protection from American troops. But a later defense team statement said that it would seek United Nations protection for the Iraqi lawyers because they do not trust either the U.S. military or the Iraqi government to ensure their safety.

Saddam's defense team, which includes some 1,500 lawyers who act as advisers, is led by Khalid al-Dulaimi and Abdel Haq Alani, an Iraqi-born lawyer based in Britain. Alani is the top legal consultant to Saddam's daughter, Raghda, and believed to be backbone of defense team.

Saturday from page A1

the dining halls.

"We encourage people to eat at Todd or West End dining halls or try the [other] food on campus," Bernstein said.

From noon to 1:30 p.m., ECU will also provide a tour of all 14 resident halls on campus.

In the spring, ECU will host an Open House for accepted students who are will be making their decision whether or not to attend ECU.

Bernstein gives a big thanks to the Army ROTC and the Air Force ROTC who will work with Parking and Transportation to help facilitate parking. They will have 10 cadets in the morning to help with parking at Minges and around campus.

"They are a really big help to us," Bernstein said.

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

All eyes on GOP to see how Bush woes affect outcome of gubernatorial, mayoral races

(AP) - U.S. Sen. Jon Corzine acknowledged a little nervousness as he voted Tuesday in his race for governor of New Jersey, one of several contests being closely monitored for evidence of how the GOP's recent struggles are influencing voters.

Tuesday's voting in New Jersey concluded a campaign that featured more personal attacks than actual talk about the issues. The races there and in Virginia together the biggest contests in this off-year election season broke spending records in both states, got progressively nasty and yet remained close.

Corzine, facing Republican businessman Doug Forrester, voted shortly after the polls opened at a fire station in Hoboken. Coming out of the voting booth, he told reporters he was "a little nervous, a little worried but confident."

A few hours later, Forrester voted at a senior center, giving a thumbs-up and expressing only optimism about his chances.

In Virginia, Democratic gubernatorial candidate Tim Kaine chatted with neighbors in his Richmond neighborhood before going to the polls with his wife, Anne Holton.

Kaine's Republican challenger, Jerry Kilgore, got a boost Monday from President Bush, who made a last-minute dash into Virginia to urge die-hard conservatives to help turn out voters for the former attorney general.

"The thing I like about this fellow is he grew up on a farm," Bush said in a brief stop on his return from a South American trade mission. "He doesn't have a lot of fancy airs."

At a campaign event for Kaine, Democratic Gov. Mark R. Warner welcomed the arrival of Bush, who even in reliably Republican Virginia suffers job-approval ratings of around 40 percent.

"If they want to compare how things are going in Washington versus how things are going in Virginia, I'll take that comparison every day of the week," Warner said.

In other contests Tuesday,

the cities of New York, Detroit, Houston, Boston, San Diego and Atlanta had mayoral races. Seven states considered ballot issues, including four proposals backed by California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger that were trailing in the polls.

Schwarzenegger's initiatives would cap state spending and give him more power to cut budgets, rein in public employee unions, and take away legislators' power to restrict.

"I'm never going to give up because I have the people power," Schwarzenegger told supporters at a retirement community in suburban Sacramento. But in a widely played radio ad, Schwarzenegger nemesis Warren Beatty tells voters: "Don't give him more power."

In New York City, Republican Mayor Michael Bloomberg held onto a clear lead against Democratic underdog Fernando Ferrer, who campaigned with the Rev. Al Sharpton and Sen. Barack Obama of Illinois.

Ferrer, the former Bronx borough president, had spent only about an eighth of the more than \$66 million that the billionaire mayor has funneled toward winning a second term.

In Boston, Mayor Thomas M. Menino hopes to set a record for the longest serving mayor in city history, while challenger Maura Hennigan wants to become Boston's first elected female mayor.

Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick was seeking another term while fending off allegations of mispending. Kilpatrick blames the fiscal problems on his predecessor, Dennis Archer, for whom challenger Freman Hendrix worked.

Allegations of ballot improprieties also have surfaced. A judge ordered Detroit election officials to oversee absentee voting after finding problems with the way the city clerk organized the effort.

Texas voters were asked to decide whether a state constitutional ban should be placed on same-sex marriage. And in Maine, a referendum seeks to repeal the state's anti-discrimination law.

France from page A1

flash point in the northeastern suburbs of Paris were expected to enforce the curfews. The army has not been called in.

Nationwide, vandals burned 1,173 cars, compared to 1,408 vehicles Sunday-Monday, police said. A total of 330 people were arrested, down from 395 the night before.

Local officials "will be able to impose curfews on the areas where this decision applies," Chirac said at a Cabinet meeting. "It is necessary to accelerate the return to calm."

The recourse to a 1955 state-of-emergency law that dates back to France's war in Algeria was a measure both of the gravity of mayhem that has spread to hundreds of French towns and cities and of the determination of Chirac's sorely tested government to quash it.

Prime Minister Dominique de Villepin said curfew violators could be sentenced to up to two months imprisonment, adding that restoring order "will take time."

"We are facing determined individuals, structured gangs," Villepin told parliament on Tuesday. He vowed that France will "guarantee public order to all of our citizens."

Nationwide, vandals overnight burned 1,173 cars, compared to 1,408 vehicles Sunday to Monday, police said. A total of 330 people were arrested, down from 395 the night before.

The violence erupted on Oct. 27 as a localized riot in a northeast Paris suburb angry over the accidental deaths of two teenagers, of Mauritanian and Tunisian descent, who were electrocuted while hiding from police in a power substation.

It has grown into a nationwide insurrection by disillusioned suburban youths, many French-born children of immigrants from



Minister of Interior, Nicolas Sarkozy, addresses the riot problem.

France's former territories like Algeria. France's suburbs have long been neglected and their youth complain of a lack of jobs and widespread discrimination, some of it racial.

The violence claimed its first victim Monday, with the death of a 61-year-old man beaten into a coma last week. Foreign governments have warned tourists to be careful in France. Apparent copycat attacks have spread to Belgium and Germany, where cars were burned. France is using fast-track trials to punish rioters, worrying some human rights campaigners.

The resort to curfews drew immediate criticism from Chirac's political opponents. Former Socialist Prime Minister Laurent Fabius said the emergency measures must be "controlled very, very closely."

Communist Party leader Marie-George Buffet said the decree could inflame rioters. "It could be taken anew as a sort of challenge to carry out more violence," she said.

Rioters in the southern city of Toulouse ordered passengers off a bus, then set it on fire and pelted police with gasoline bombs and rocks. Youths also torched another bus in the northeastern Paris suburb of Stains, national police spokesman Patrick Hamon said.

Outside Paris in Sevran, a junior high school was set ablaze, while in the suburb of Vitry-sur-Seine youths threw gasoline bombs at a hospital, Hamon said. Nobody was injured.

Rioters also attacked a police station with gasoline bombs in Chenove, in Burgundy's Cote D'Or, Hamon said. A nursery school in Lille-Fives, in northern France, was set on fire, regional officials said.

In terms of material destruction, the unrest is France's worst since World War II. Never has rioting struck so many French cities simultaneously, said security expert Sebastian Roche, a director of research at the state-funded National Center for Scientific Research.

North Korea promises 'sincere efforts' in new round of nuclear talks, fifth conference since '03

BEIJING (AP) - North Korea's envoy promised to make "sincere efforts" as diplomats prepared to resume six-nation talks Wednesday aimed at stripping Pyongyang of its nuclear weapons program, although analysts warned against expecting a breakthrough.

China says the talks in Beijing, the fifth since 2003, will last three days before a recess to let the diplomats attend an Asia-Pacific economic forum in South Korea. Participants in the nuclear talks are the two Koreas, China, the United States, Japan and Russia.

Both the United States and North Korea, meanwhile, kept up their tough talk Tuesday.

Pyeongyang condemned President Bush for calling its leader a "tyrant" on Sunday, saying it

raised doubts about the prospect of the talks, while the new U.S. ambassador to South Korea accused the communist country of human rights abuses.

The last round of talks ended in September with North Korea promising to disarm in exchange for aid and a security guarantee. But negotiators haven't taken up the most difficult issues: how the North will disarm, and how to verify it.

North Korea has raised doubts about its intentions by demanding it be given a civilian nuclear reactor before it disarms a demand the United States has rejected.

Pyeongyang appears to be dragging its feet, said Peter Beck, the Seoul-based director of the North East Asia Project for the

International Crisis Group, an independent think tank.

"I don't think they're serious about progress yet," he said. In the meantime, he said, "Washington has no choice but to go along with this charade."

Even host China tried to moderate expectations, saying this week's meeting could be considered a success even if it produces no written agreement.

"I do not think that progress of the talks needs to be measured by the signing of a document," Foreign Ministry spokesman Liu Jianchao said Tuesday.

A joint statement at the end of September's talks sidestepped the North's demand for a nuclear reactor, saying it would be discussed "at an appropriate time."

My Random Column

Why, oh why, do we do these things?

I never thought I would laugh AT people so much in my life, and then I came to college.

Where else in the world do two people stand in a turning lane to catch up with each other? Two people stand, oblivious to the cars speeding by, just chatting away. It made me laugh when I drove by as the other cars are avoiding them and they stood there. Where else can you get away with that?

People without Scantrons on test days in upper level classes... I mean really people - you have made it two, three or four years at this establishment with the same kind of classes and the same kind of tests. For years now you have done the routine and you walk in on test day and are completely baffled when you have a test.

Internet sites like Facebook or MySpace waste hours and hours and days and days of our lives. Who would have thought a little idea like that would turn into such a time consuming pastime? I don't have enough time to waste on those sites, but I do anyway. It doesn't make sense to me.

I received a Pirate Rant about coming to college because of "underwear parties" and my problem with that is, if you came to college to waste four years of your life on partying, you could have just skipped the school part. Living at home with your parents saves on rent and keeps a roof over your head. I am here to learn, why are you here?

The last thing that makes me laugh is when people have a fake ID and they get caught and turned down for buying a drink or getting into a club. I am not yet 21 and I know I am not. I am used to the fact that I can't drink in a club or restaurant, soon enough it will be OK. But using a fake ID and then getting upset when you can't use it, please, you aren't old enough already, don't make it seem like you are a toddler whose mommy told them they couldn't play with a toy.

Until next week — Jennifer Hobbs



Opinion Columnist

15,000 songs! Are we that crazy for music?

iPod iNsanity

BEJAMIN CORMACK
CAUSAL OBSERVER

I did a story for my Basic Reporting class recently on the Macintosh iPod, the popular mp3 player and data storage device. While doing my research I came up with some surprising figures when it came to the iPod's well known storage capacity.

According to the Apple Computer, Inc. Web site, with a hard drive of 60 gigabytes the iPod can potentially hold 15,000 songs, 25,000 photos, or 150 hours of video. Now the 60 GB iPod is the largest model that Apple makes, with smaller models available. While I don't own an iPod or plan to anytime soon, the sheer size of this thing got me thinking. Exactly how much space or information is this thing capable of holding? So I did some number crunching to try and grasp this in some kind of visual concept. Forgive me if these figures aren't exact to the very last decimal. I'm an English major darn it, not a math major.

If the average CD holds 12 songs, then one 60 GB iPod can hold 1,250 CDs worth of songs, which in their cases would stand nearly 42 feet in height. That's taller than six Shaquille O'Neals standing on each others' shoulders.

If each song stored on a 60 GB iPod was three minutes long, that would equal 45,000 minutes, nearly 750 hours, or 31.25 days, which is a little bit more than an actual month's worth of music. If you listened to music for eight hours a day, it would take you nearly 94 days or almost three months to listen to all that music.

Now in terms of the iPod's video capabilities, 150 hours of video is equal to 6.25 days. Watching all of these video files

for eight hours a day would take you almost 19 days.

Phew! I haven't done math like that in a while. Now as far as the other iPod models go... you'd better do the math on your own... my head hurts...

After doing all of this math, I've come to a conclusion of sorts:

When it comes to music, we are gradually growing more and more insane.

I can not think of any reason whatsoever for someone needing to be able to listen to 15,000 songs. Who needs to listen to that much music? The only people I could think of are people with levels of attention deficit disorder the likes of which science has never seen, people who love music to a degree that I obviously can't begin to fathom or someone so busy and on the go that they barely have time for organizing their music preferences.

I like music as much the next guy, but I barely listen to the music I have on my mp3 player, which is 512 megabytes. I got it for Christmas, and it's even bigger than I originally wanted. I'll admit that it gets a little frustrating to load and unload music on it, where as with an iPod it might be easier. I just refuse to have to search through that much music.

The iPod also looks kind of weird, like somebody crossed a palm-pilot with a portable CD player. Some of them are so thin, too. I feel like I'm going to break them just by looking at them.

Then again, based on their obvious popularity I guess I don't really know all that much. I'll admit the idea of having that much music at my disposal is a great concept. Not to mention that with all of the accessories you can buy for it, it can become a home entertainment center.

Then again, I'm the kind of guy who wants something to

do just what he wants it to do. When my mom and I got new cell phones, all we really wanted was one that we could use as a phone. We ended-up with a cell phone that had a camera, text messaging, downloadable ring tones and more features that I still haven't quite figured out yet. All I really wanted was a phone. The guy at the store told us that these features have just become the standard now.

Technology is great, I love it. I just wonder if as a society we are asking technology for more quantity and less quality. Like in the case of cell phones, more and more technology gets packed into them with each model that seems to come out every few months or so. A camera is nice, but I fail to see a great deal of practical use for it. Then again, I still haven't quite figured out how to get the pictures I take off of it. But of course there's one factor I'm forgetting: fun. The greatest thing about technology, other than improving our lives and making tasks easier, is generating and creating new fun activities and thus even more precious memories. I guess what I'm saying is that I like improving technology - I just wish it would slow down so I could appreciate it more.

Finally, I'd just like to share a piece of information on a technology that is almost as good as the iPod. It even comes with free service. Instead of buying the unit, paying fees, and downloading songs, you just buy the initial unit, flip a switch, and music is instantaneous. Sure you don't always hear the exact song you want, but variety and the latest songs are available to you for free. The great thing is you can find them in your car, on stereos, in some mp3 players and even on the Internet. It's called radio.

Pirate Rant

No one reads long away messages. So don't waste your time writing them.

I must be crazy, but when ECU builds sidewalks... I swear they really are trying to build new highways on campus... I can't stand it when I'm trying to walk on the sidewalk and the facilities trucks are always parked on the sidewalks or driving on them! Use the road!

Where do the guys who don't obsess over partying hide? I need to find you!

I'm the one who arrives late to class everyday. Ten, 15 sometimes 20 minutes and I go through hell to get here and park a mile away. What's it to you? You're distracted? That's tough. How's it feel to have ADHD. Take your meds and mind your own business.

To all the cleaning staff in the science and technology building: You are doing a great job! The building is always so bright and clean, and we appreciate it.

I remember the good old days when politicians were well educated and intelligent when they spoke. Those were the days, in American History I.

To the person who said that the police need to worry more about protecting students than writing alcohol tickets, for your information most of the crime that occurs in the downtown area can be attributed to alcohol consumption. So when police write you the underage drinking ticket, they are trying to protect you. Because if they just tell you to pour it out you would just get another one.

In the wise words of Angelica Pickles: If you have to ask, you'll never know.

When people tell you to walk on the right side, they mean YOUR right.

I played racquetball once too and found 40 bucks! It must be a good luck sport.

I'm tired of hearing people complain about how our troops shouldn't be overseas. Did you forget why they were over there?

Hello! Girls don't flush toilets because they're made of sugar and spice and everything nice.

It's pitiful when you wake up at nine in the morning to go to the bathroom and there are still drunk, puking girls in there.

We need more love in the world! Because some people just don't know how to smile.

Why don't they just give up on Fluid Dynamics 101 and turn Wright Fountain into a parking lot. However small it would be, it would still prove more useful.

Make sure you register for spring classes or you will be stuck in the fall.

The point of school spirit is to wear purple and gold not light or navy blue - or other college colors. Go pirates!

To the guy playing the guitar in his room: You play great and I wish I could have heard more.

How can you tell who really is a college student on campus?

I've always found the librarians at Joyner to be friendly and nice. If you're working on a paper they're definitely there to help.

Why can't I take any classes that I need for my major?

Cinnamon buns should come with two things of icing.

The Colbert Report is like "The Daily Show" on crack... and it's great!

Someone please tell my roommate to walk around the apartment in something other than his boxers.

To the guy who keeps talking about the earring his girlfriend found: please shut up. You do not love your girlfriend. If you loved your girlfriend you would not have even wanted to cheat on her. But don't worry if she is stupid enough to stay with you, y'all deserve each other.

Why is it that SGA thinks throwing more money at different institutions will make their problems go away? Why not look back at the money that came in and do a better job of budgeting?

I would like to thank the ECU bus driver who drove The Freshman Shuttle Bus Sunday night! He was officially the worst driver on the road! He is driving a \$250,000 extremely large vehicle reading a book for homework and taking an occasional break from that to send a text message on his cell phone while going 20 miles over the speed limit! I appreciate the necessary safety precautions!

I thought Mr. McKee's article was better than the hog-wash that he usually provides. However, am I the only one that was disturbed that he "lost count" of how many people he saw use the urinal/toilet and didn't wash their hands? You had me at "hello, Tony."

I just want to say thanks to the frat that harassed me outside of Wright Place on Wednesday. Yes I know someone with diabetes but no I really didn't have a dollar on me. So thanks for trying to make me look bad, how about you spend less money on "keggers" and shirts with cute little letters on it and donate that to diabetes.

Screw major, I'm running for Emperor!

That mohawk guy is bad news. He tried to ask me out and I said "eww."

The Womens' Rugby team could make the football team cry!

Listening to your iPod during a test isn't cool. Trust me on this one.

To the girl I almost ran over on Monday while turning off of Rotary onto 4th Street. I apologize. I was not paying attention.

To the guy who cheated on his girlfriend and was caught: You say you love your girlfriend so much and you can't lose her. It seems you haven't once stopped to think of her this whole time. If you loved her you wouldn't have cheated on her, but they say people make mistakes so I will give you that one. But if you do care about her maybe you should stop with the pirate rants because now she is reminded when she reads TEC every Tues./Thurs. that you cheated on her. She is better off without you.

No one cares that you are from New Jersey it doesn't make you cool. Please stop raving about Jersey - it is making it intolerable to be around you.

Your diet should not consist of entirely McDonald's and Taco Bell. You are going to have a heart attack by the time you are 30.

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

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In My Opinion

(KRT) — I take you back now to the news headlines one year ago.

"Emboldened by a solid election victory, President Bush heads into his second term with an ambitious agenda to change America and the world."

Whoops. A year ago, on the heels of a popular-vote majority and Republican gains in the Senate and House, a tired but elated George W. Bush happily accepted what he called a "mandate" after a closely fought election against a Democrat with lots of head but not enough heart for the jittery American electorate.

The plain-spoken Texan promised to use his "political capital" to get stuff done in a national capital that was all but draped in the official colors of his party.

He was going to set Iraq on the road to democracy, defeat global terrorism, and send a wave of freedom across the Middle East. At home, he planned to extend his tax cuts to future generations, revamp the legal system and the tax code, and bring about dramatic changes in Social Security.

Not to mention attacking the pesky budget deficit that somehow ballooned to historic proportions in the first term, his conservative fiscal credentials notwithstanding.

Well, how did he do, folks? Are you happier now than a year ago? Do you feel safer? Is

our government working more efficiently and ethically? Have the "moral values" that many claimed (inaccurately, as it turned out) to be the sole reason for the GOP juggernaut transformed a profligate and profane nation?

OK, so I'm not being fair. The president is going through a bit of a rough patch, what with the U.S. death toll in Iraq climbing to new, heartbreaking numbers, the withdrawal of a Supreme Court nominee his enemies didn't much like and his friends hated, and the indictment of the top aide and alter ego to the most powerful vice president in American history.

To paraphrase a book I used to read to my kids when they were young, last week was a terrible, horrible, no-good, very bad week.

Some weeks are like that in politics.

What I'm worried about is that we're looking at a terrible, horrible, no-good, very bad 39 more months.

Sure, second terms are notoriously messy, as the flaws and foibles of the first heady years come back to haunt any administration that is automatically old news the moment it begins.

And sure, this worry reflects the biases of someone who's never been a member of W's fan club. If some of the items on the president's do-to-in-a-second-term list don't get done like "reforming" Social Security out of existence and extending unnecessary tax

breaks for the wealthy you won't hear me complain.

But like a growing number of Americans, well more than a majority by now, I have lost faith in this administration's ability to prosecute the war in Iraq, a war that it is now clear they were hell-bent on pursuing no matter the evidence or the risks.

After the Katrina debacle, when the federal government's key role in coordinating state and local emergency efforts was badly handled, I have little faith that the first administration run by a Harvard Business School grad knows how to manage in a crisis.

After the unending list of new spending proposals offered by a White House with nary a word on how to pay for them except to cut programs to the poor, I despair that the federal budget will be balanced again in my lifetime.

Yeah, well, I'm a worrier. They say there is progress in Iraq, even if it's hard to discern on the nightly news. The economy is growing at a decent clip, even if that's news to the poor. Maybe what I see as terrible and horrible will actually turn out to be some version of OK or even good.

But in case my worries are realized, I hope the hapless opposition in Washington spends some of its waking moments crafting sensible, exciting alternatives to the policies pursued by the arrogant crew now in charge. Three years suddenly seems like an awfully long time.

What's Hot

Top 5s:

Top 5 Movies

1. *Chicken Little*
2. *Jarhead*
3. *Saw II*
4. *The Legend of Zorro*
5. *Prime*

Top 5 Pop Albums

1. Destiny's Child
2. Nickelback
3. Martina McBride
4. Rod Stewart
5. Black Eyed Peas

Top 5 TV Shows

1. "CSI"
2. "Without a Trace"
3. "CSI: Miami"
4. "Lost"
5. "NCIS"

Top 5 DVD Rentals

1. *Batman Begins*
2. *Kingdom of Heaven*
3. *Kicking and Screaming*
4. *The Interpreter*
5. *Land of the Dead*

Top 5 Books

1. *At First Sight*
2. *Knife of Dreams*
3. *The Lincoln Lawyer*
4. *Consent to Kill*
5. *Son of a Witch*

Horoscopes:

Aries - The possibilities are pretty good that you and your team will achieve the previously thought impossible. Go for it.

Taurus - You can bet there'll be an argument on just about every point of possible contention. Stick to the important stuff.

Gemini - If the bulk of the job is done, you should be able to take a mid-week excursion. Reward yourself for having made it this far.

Cancer - Postpone a romantic interlude until after your shopping is done. Finish as many of your other tasks as you can now, too.

Leo - Consider the possibilities and the consequences. Make lists of pros and cons, and wait. More information is coming.

Virgo - Careful analysis is required. Luckily, you're in the mood. Even a tricky problem can be solved. Read the manual.

Libra - Don't reach for the checkbook reach for your sketch pad and your lined paper, instead. You need to visualize first, then make a list.

Scorpio - Follow through with a recommendation. Check that item off your lists. Start making plans for a romantic interlude soon, but one that does not break your budget.

Sagittarius - Odds are good you'll hit pay dirt soon. Don't get over-enthusiastic, though. Proceed with caution.

Capricorn - Cash in your coupons, send in your rebates, recycle bottles and cans. You'll make enough to get yourself a well-earned special treat.

Aquarius - The person who signs your paycheck has strong ideas about how things are done. He or she is not necessarily right. Be cautious in pointing this out.

Pisces - How do you advance in your career? Start by doing whatever you've already said you'd do. It works.

Fun Facts:

- A snail can sleep for three years.
- 'Jedi' is an official religion with over 70,000 followers in Australia.
- Male monkeys lose the hair on their heads the same way men do.
- Ancient Romans at one time used human urine as an ingredient in their toothpaste.
- The average NFL player's career lasts only three and a half years.
- More than 50 percent of people in the world have never made or received a telephone call.
- Baskin Robbins once made ketchup flavored ice cream.
- February 1865 is the only month in recorded history not to have a full moon.
- There are 92 known cases of nuclear bombs lost at sea.
- The sloth, a mammal, moves so slowly that green algae can grow undisturbed on its fur.
- Oak trees are struck by lightning more than any other tree.

Taken from funfacts.com

Great places to meet people

Where to meet people on campus and in Greenville

SARAH CAMPBELL
STAFF WRITER

Meeting someone for the first time is one of the most nerve-racking, exhilarating and interesting things that a person can experience. Exploring the unknown worlds of new people that come into your life can sometimes leave you with a great new friend. So where do you meet new people? Well, there are a variety of places on campus and around Greenville where students can get to know someone new.

One of the most obvious places to meet people is by simply going to class. Each class has a variety of different people to get to know. In some cases you may only form a study partner, but in others you may build a lifelong friendship. Two other common places to meet people on campus are outside of Joyner Library and the dining halls.

Another common place to meet new people is by living in the dorms. Living in such close proximity allows students to bond with their roommate, hall mates and people from other floors. You never feel lonely living in the dorm because there is always a friend just footsteps away.



Outside the Bate Building, 'the social circle' is a great place to meet new and interesting people.

Facebook.com is a growing trend among students - however, I don't recommend it as your primary source for meeting people. The party listings allow students to attend a variety of different parties and meet tons of new people.

"Party listings on facebook are a great way to meet new people,"

said Will Mooney, junior exercise physiology major.

Greenville is filled with tons of places to meet new people - however, my personal favorite is Barnes and Noble. Although I've never acquired any lifelong friendships there, I have met people willing to offer their insight into a number of books.

Spending the afternoon chatting with someone about your favorite books can provide comfort that lasts for years to come. Also, many ECU students study here and though you may not find your soulmate, you may find out some interesting facts about the classes you are in now or classes you plan to take next semester.

Starbucks is another locale where strangers can become friends.

"A really good place to meet new people is at Starbucks, because people are always there studying and doing work," said Brittny Batchelor, junior sociology major. On the next rainy day, grab your books and head to Starbucks to enjoy great coffee and company.

I've found that the easiest way to bond with new people is by equally embarrassing yourselves. The ice-skating rink, Bladez on Ice, is the best place to enjoy this experience. There is no better way to bond than by completing wiping out at the same time as someone else, then laughing because you realize that you're not the only one.

Striking up a conversation with a stranger can be rewarding for both you and them. You will get information about their lives, while they are comforted with the knowledge that someone cares. These friendships may fade fast, but probably neither one of you will ever forget one another, and who knows - you might create a lifelong friendship. Look around campus and Greenville for places to meet and greet new people that could be your new best friend.

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Knock-off handbags: Friend or Foe?



How to tell the difference between the two

TOMEKA STEELE
SENIOR WRITER

The collection is sacred. Some of us have one for each season and one in each color. Some of us would rather be stabbed than let that mugger run off with our favorite designer bag. But there's always that nagging thought in your head, "Is my bag real? Does it even matter?"

Designer handbags are no doubt a symbol of status. Not only that, but they look really great too. Women out there who love purses know what it feels like to walk down the hallway of a mall or building and have every other woman's eyes on your gorgeous bag. It can be rather addicting just like shoes and clothes. The right bag can make a plain outfit into a fabulous ensemble. This is part of the draw into buying knock-offs.

Well, of course, your bag is real if you bought it from a legitimate place like Belk's or

Nordstrom's, but beware - if you got your bag off eBay or Canal Street in New York City's Chinatown, chances are you're walking around with a knock-off.

The bigger and more demand for a hot new designer bag, the more likely there will be knock-offs swarming around for those unwilling to shell out hundreds to thousands of dollars. The most replicated bags are Louis Vuitton, Kate Spade, Gucci, Christian Dior, Prada, Burberry, Coach and Chanel.

These designer bags are very expensive for a college student. Many of us barely have enough money to pay the electric bill, and this is what makes knock-offs so much more realistic. They are just as good as the designer bags at a reasonable price. Sometimes it's extremely hard to tell the difference between designer and replica, especially with the prized Louis Vuitton handbags with the LV symbol.

"I feel like if a person can't afford the real thing, then they shouldn't buy a knock-off. I just think if people keep buying the

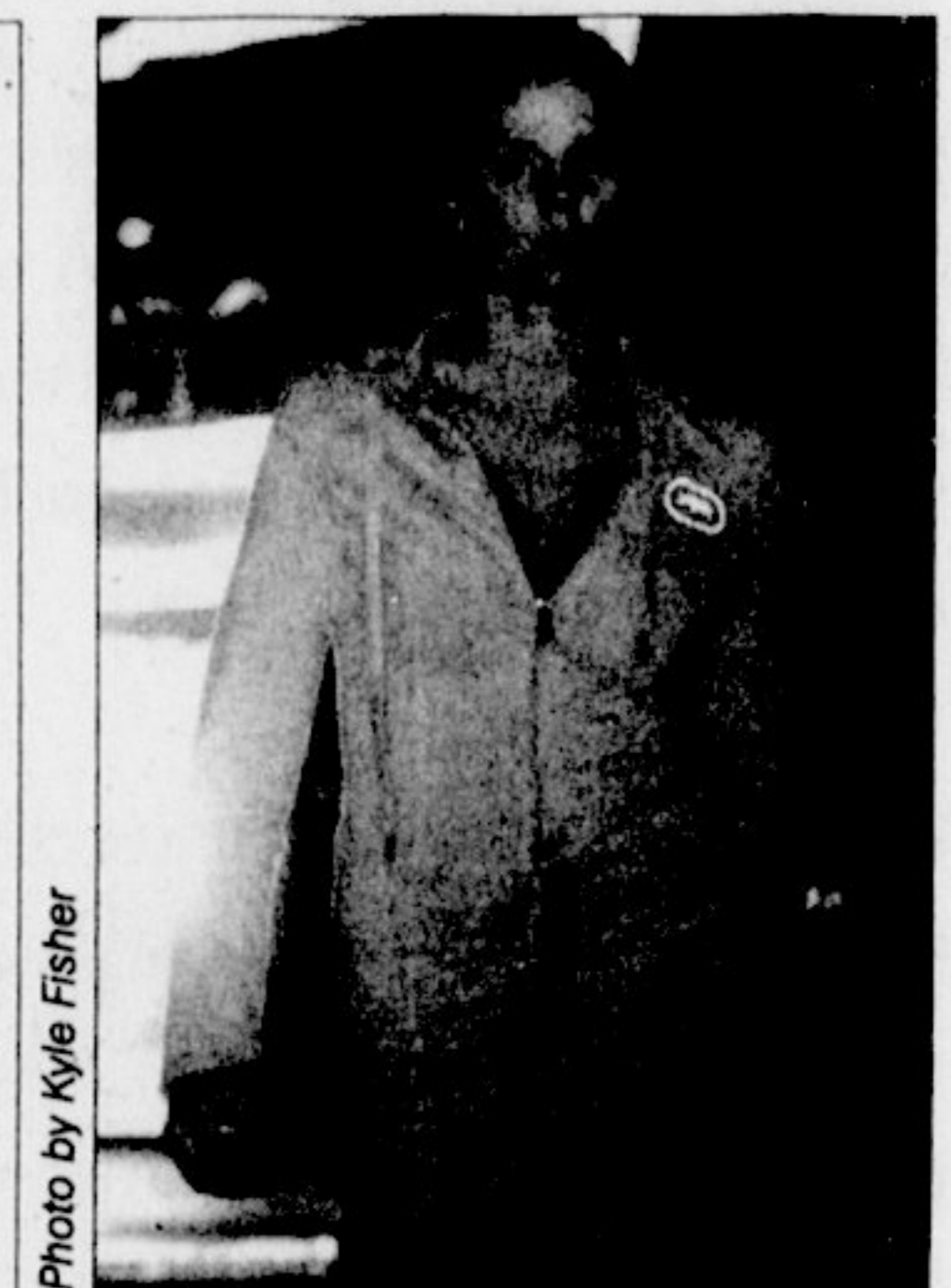
fakes, it lessens the value of the authentic designer purses," said senior biology major Niaja Cotton.

Most replicas and the designer bag are made with the same materials, which have a vinyl or rubber coated canvas. This makes it hard to distinguish between them. The real designer bag often comes with a serial number or identity card and the stamp says "Louis Vuitton Paris, Made in France." One should look closely at a bag when deciphering if it's a real or fake. The quality of the stitching is a big give-away when it's a fake.

According to Alice Temple's article "Faking it: How to spot a fake," a person won't see shoddy workmanship on a legitimate bag - puckered leather and wonky stitching are sure signs of a fake. Only accept an article in pristine condition - if you're questioning the quality, it's likely to be suspect.

Some purses are replicas, which means they have the same symbols as the designer bags. These are usually illegal. Other knock-offs are "designer

see PURSES page A5



Models will wear donated clothes.

AIMO charity fashion show

'Ripped, Torn and Fabulous'

TOMEKA STEELE
SENIOR WRITER

On Nov. 11 at club Aqua, the Apparel and Interior Merchandising Organization of ECU will put on its semester fashion show event. The fashion show is titled "Ripped, Torn and Fabulous," and doors will open at 8 p.m. The show will begin promptly at 9 p.m.

This fashion show is the third show put on by AIMO. There is a fashion show sponsored by AIMO each semester. The proceeds from this show will go toward the Give2theTroops foundation, which is a non-profit organization that makes care packages for the troops fighting overseas.

AIMO's main goal as an organization is to do as much charity and volunteer work as possible. They volunteer at numerous places in the Greenville community such as Operation Sunshine, and they are eager to get their name out more on campus.

"Ripped, Torn and Fabulous" will showcase a variety of fashions at Greenville's hottest downtown nightclub. There will be four segments of fall and winter fashion that include urban street wear, cooperate corruption, punk rock and classy lingerie ensembles.

"Many of the outfits have shirts that have been ripped or pants that have been torn. This is how we came up with the name for this fashion show. We're basically trying to show how to turn old clothes into new ones with just a few minor alterations," said fashion show coordinator Brittny Furse.

Most of the pieces that will showcase in the fashion show will be put together by the models. The models in the show are all ECU students. Most outfits were put together with the things that were already in the models' closets but with an added twist.

There is a special piece in the

see CAROLLA page A5

see FASHION page A5

Celebrity Profile: Adam Carolla, comedic genius

A funny man with a plan

EMILY JORDAN
STAFF WRITER

Italian-American funny man Adam Carolla has worked on a smorgasbord of projects. From carpentry to boxing, radio, TV and film, he's tried his hand at everything. Carolla goes to show that having a college education does not necessarily get you into the limelight - it simply takes a charismatic personality and probably some good old-fashioned luck.

Adam Carolla was born May

27, 1964 in Philadelphia, Pa. Later, his family moved to California. Carolla attended North Hollywood High School where his jokes were better than his grades. Though not a serious student, Carolla briefly attended L.A. Valley Junior College before dropping out to pursue a series of menial jobs.

Carolla's comedy career started while he was in his twenties. He spent years training in stand-up with Acme Improv groups and the Groundlings in Los Angeles, but he really got his start when he met Jimmy Kimmel. One day Kimmel just happened

to announce on the radio that he was looking for a boxing instructor. Carolla answered the ad and became not only Kimmel's coach, but also his friend.

Carolla soon joined up with Kimmel on a KROQ morning radio show in Los Angeles, where the "Crank Yankers" characters Mr. Birchum and the Vietnam veteran shop teacher were born. Carolla was first known for the radio talk show "Loveline," which he began co-hosting with Dr. Drew Pinsky in 1995. Like the sitcom "Seinfeld," the show was about nothing and it was a hit. After 10 years on-air with

"Loveline," Carolla left the show August 4, 2005 to take over Howard Stern's morning radio program. But, Carolla and Dr. Drew's "Loveline" legacy lives forever in print - in 1998 the two published *A Survival Guide to Life and Love*.

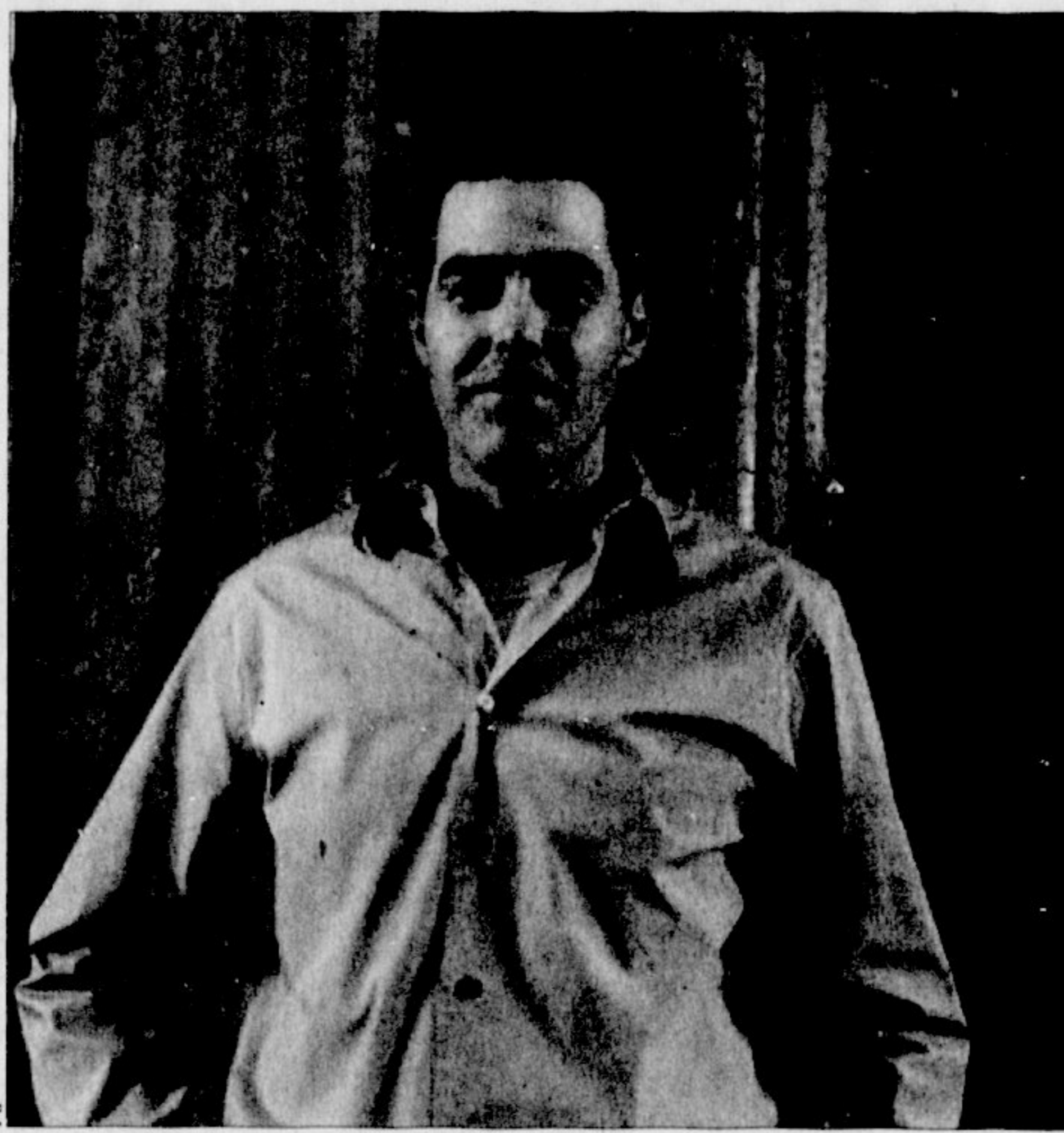
Carolla's voice has not only appeared on radio. He has been the voice for Commander Nebula on Disney's "Buzz Lightyear of Star Command" TV series, as well as two Buzz Lightyear films. He also replaced Norm MacDonald as the voice of Death on

Carolla from page A4

"Family Guy."
And that's not all. Carolla has made numerous TV appearances on a variety of television series and on film. Currently he is the executive producer of "The Adam Carolla Project," aired on TLC and he is writer and executive producer of "Too Late With Adam Carolla." He was co-creator and writer of "The Man Show" with Jimmy Kimmel. He was also co-creator of Comedy Central's "Crank Yankers." And his list of TV guest appearances is quite extensive. The man's voice and his face are everywhere it seems. His most recent endeavor is being the spokesman for Lance Snack Crackers with his catch phrase, "I've got Lance in my pants." No one can help but laugh at his commercials and think about the crackers. If anybody knows anything about Carolla, they wouldn't find

this too shocking: along with a number of notable people, he's a member of the advisory board of the Marijuana Policy Project, which supports the medical use of marijuana. The project uses famous faces and voices throughout the country to fight the war on marijuana. This happy-go-lucky guy has quickly earned his way to the top. From tlc.discovery.com, Kimmel says that Adam Carolla is "the busiest lazy man in history." It certainly seems that Carolla struck it rich with the personality that America was looking for. With shows like "Crank Yankers" in national syndication and new films and TV shows popping up every year or so, Adam Carolla is not going anywhere for quite some time.

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



Funny man Adam Carolla has a very successful career in comedy.

Purses from page A4

inspired." These, for instance, may use the LV purse's little symbols, but not the actual LV logo or may have G's turned in toward each other instead of C's like the designer Coach bags. If you are really going to try to make a knock-off look real, do some research before purchasing your new bag. Go to the department stores and look at the real bags, study the stitching, where the designer's name is located, if there are any tags inside, what colors the bag really comes in

and what the name-brand materials feel like. A true connoisseur can see a knock-off a mile away. If you care that your bag is fake, you may want to just save up the money for the real thing. If you don't care, sport it. Every woman out there whose fetish is handbags wants to know every tiny detail and secret to distinguish between real and fake purses. Many books are devoted to doing just that for a price. There are also tons of Web sites that divulge

designer handbag secrets as well. Whether bags are real or fake all just depends on the woman. Some are ashamed to wear a knock-off and others could care less, but at least now you have the information so if you want the real deal, you know what to look for. Another thing for consumers to remember is that "knock-off" bags are being illegally made, so be careful where you purchase. This writer can be contacted at features@theeastcarolinian.com.

How to spot a fake purse:
Look for more tips at authentic-handbag.com.
Wide stitching
Puckered seams
No identification code
No Emblem inside
Quality of materials
Be a smart consumer and look over all of your purchases before you buy.

Fashion from page A4

fashion show that was made by a professor in the merchandising department. This outfit will open the show in a two minute scene, telling the story of the piece and introducing the rest of the fashion show. The Black Student Union Dance Team will perform a dance routine during the intermission of the charity fashion show. There will also be some selections read by DEF Poetry poets. "Ripped, Torn and Fabulous" will be an hour and a half of fashion packed fabulousness. Anyone can attend this charity event at club Aqua. Tickets will be sold Monday through Friday at a table in the Wright Plaza from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. The price for a ticket is \$5 in advance. Admission tickets will be sold at the door, as well, for the same amount. "This is going to be a very interesting fall and winter fashion show. Some of the pieces will

Ripped, Torn and Fabulous Fashion Show
When: Nov. 11
Where: Club Aqua
Tickets: Wright Plaza or door \$5
Doors open: 8 p.m.
Show starts: 9 p.m.
Why: Proceeds go to the Give2theTroops foundation
look like something you'd see every day around campus and others will be very high fashion. "Aqua is a great club and the music's going to be loud and it's going to be exciting from one segment to the next. Students will enjoy this fashion show and it's for a good cause," Furse said. This writer can be contacted at features@theeastcarolinian.com.



Participants at the AIMO fashion show rehearsed Sunday at 8 p.m.

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Sports Briefs

Williams steps down from golf post

Kevin Williams has resigned his position as head coach of the ECU men and women's golf teams, effective Dec. 31, to become the head golf professional at Walnut Creek Country Club in Goldsboro, NC, athletic department officials announced Tuesday. Williams leaves with a 987-808-26 overall record with the men's team and an overall 583-271-10 mark with the women. In 10-plus seasons with the men, he guided the Pirates to six team tournament titles, 12 individual crowns and coached five Academic All-America selections. In 2000, Williams became the first head coach of the women's program and guided the Lady Pirates to a pair of NCAA at-large bids in 2003 and 2005, and coached Adrienne Millican in the 2004 NCAA Women's Golf Championships. During the 2003 season, Williams was named Conference USA Women's Golf Coach-of-the-Year after leading the Pirates to a 132-21-2 record, which included three wins over top-25 teams, three team titles and nine top-five finishes. In five seasons at the helm of the Lady Pirates Williams coached five National Golf Collegiate Association All-America Scholars, seven All-C-USA selections, two C-USA All-Freshman Team choices and one C-USA All-Decade member in Millican. ECU Senior Associate Director of Athletics Nick Floyd said a search would begin immediately to find Williams' replacement.

Duke's Redick, Williams named preseason All-Americans

Senior teammates J.J. Redick and Shelden Williams of the No. 1 Blue Devils were the leading voters Tuesday on the Associated Press' preseason All-America team. It is the fifth time since the AP started the preseason team in 1986-87 that teammates were chosen by the national media panel that selects the weekly Top 25. Seniors Dee Brown of Illinois and Craig Smith of Boston College also made the team, along with junior Adam Morrison of Gonzaga. Redick, the only returning first-teeamer from last season, received 67 of 72 votes, while Williams, a third-team choice last season, was on 63 ballots. The 6-foot-4 Redick averaged 21.8 points last season, shooting 40.3 percent from 3-point range and 93.8 percent from the free throw line. His most impressive statistic was averaging 37.3 minutes per game, a number that should drop this season because of added depth. The 6-9 Williams debated about leaving for the NBA, but is back after averaging 15.5 points, 11.2 rebounds and 3.7 blocks last season while shooting 58.2 percent from the field. It is the second time Duke has had two players on the preseason All-America team. Bobby Hurley and Grant Hill were the first teammates to do it in 1992. The other preseason teammates were Raef LaFrentz and Paul Pierce of Kansas and Mike Bibby and Miles Simon of Arizona, all chosen in 1997, and Luke Walton and Jason Gardner of Arizona in 2002.

Urbina held pending formal charge of attempted murder

Philadelphia Phillies pitcher Ugueth Urbina was arrested and held Tuesday pending a formal charge of attempted murder, police said Tuesday. Last month, Urbina and a group of men allegedly attacked five workers with machetes and poured gasoline on them in an attempt to set them on fire. All five were injured, some of them with cuts and one with burns on the back and right arm, police said. Urbina, who was detained late Monday, has insisted he had nothing to do with the violence at his family's ranch on Oct. 16. The authorities said Urbina would be formally charged once he appears before a judge, and Urbina said he understood that hearing could be held Tuesday. Urbina's lawyer, Jose Luis Tamayo, said the pitcher was sleeping at the time of the incident and was not involved. One victim, Argenis Farias, has accused Urbina of being among the attackers. Urbina was traded from Detroit to Philadelphia in the middle of last season. The reliever became a free agent after the season ended. Urbina was with his mother and other relatives late Monday at another of Urbina's homes on the outskirts of Caracas when the police came with an arrest warrant, Tamayo said. He called the arrest "inexplicable." The lawyer said Urbina has cooperated with the authorities all along, noting he has come to the police voluntarily to provide testimony. The violence broke out at the ranch house where Urbina's mother, Maura Villareal, lives about 25 miles south of Caracas. But Urbina's lawyer has said the pitcher surprised the workers by showing up at the ranch that night while they were bathing in the pool without permission. He said Urbina spoke sharply to them, but later left and went to sleep. The 31-year-old Urbina has a 44-49 record with 237 saves and a 3.45 ERA in 11 seasons.

2006 Champions crowned in intramural flag football

ECU students show off talent in fall flag football championships

DAVID WASKIEWICZ
STAFF WRITER

After weeks of battling it out at the Blount Fields, the time had finally come last week for the intramural flag football championships. Twelve teams, made up of ECU students and staff, gathered around the wet fields last in hopes of coming away with an intramural flag football championship T-shirt. Despite winning or losing, everyone could agree that the atmosphere of just making it to the championship game was a good one.

The sorority championship game pitted Alpha Phi against Chi Omega. The game was hard fought as two evenly matched teams were deadlocked at the end of regulation. After numerous overtimes Alpha Phi was finally able to call themselves flag football champions as they came out on top 17-6 in the longest ECU flag football championship game in more than 15 years.

In the co-rec championship game, the Angry Tunas and Ridonkulous battled it out in hopes of winning the title. Both teams played a close game until the second half when the

Angry Tunas were able to extend their lead and eventually take the championship 28-16. Matt Hill, a senior from Ridonkulous, blamed the loss on a combination of miscommunications within the team. "We should have had a practice in between our last games," said Hill.

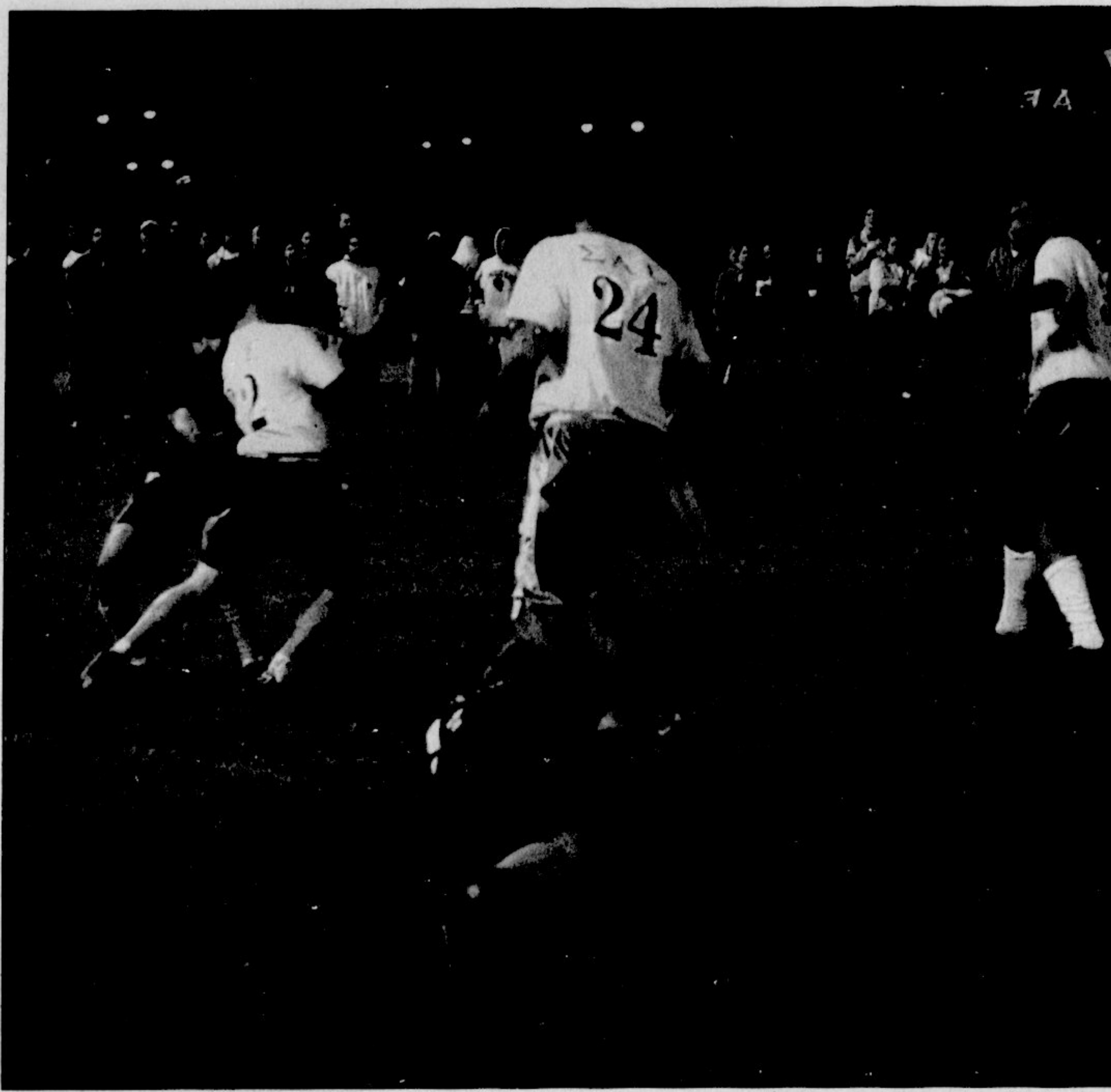
"People did not really understand what each other were trying to say. We had a bad attitude and we probably should have lost the game because of that."

The Angry Tunas did not just settle for just one victory on the night as several members were also participants on the men's team of the same name that defeated Harry Caray in the men's purple final game 20-16. "It felt great to win tonight," said the captain of the Angry Tunas, Jeffery Brock.

"We won the co-rec championship then we came back and won the men's tonight. Everyone on the team played as a whole and it brought us all together."

The men's gold championship was hard fought as Bucho faced What. Bucho was an underdog in the contest since they had played the regular season in the less competitive purple league. Since they dominated opponents in this division, they were then bumped up to the gold league for the playoffs in order to fill the

see FOOTBALL page A8



Chi Phi took it to SAE in the fraternity championship game as they cruised to an impressive 21-0 win.

Duke poised for title run



Duke celebrates after defeating UNC 71-70 last year in Cameron Indoor Stadium.

Blue Devils have by far the most talented squad

JEFF FELTON
STAFF WRITER

According to the AP and the USA Today/ESPN coaches polls, the Duke University Men's Basketball team opens the season as the unanimous number one team in the country. Led by senior All-American J.J. Redick and National Defensive Player of the Year Shelden Williams, the Blue Devils are also returning seniors Lee Melchionni and Sean Dockery.

Complementing this deep senior class are sophomore Demarcus Nelson and McDonald's High School All-Americans Josh McRoberts, Eric Boateng and Greg Paulus. Redick, who averaged 21.8 ppg, 2.6 apg and 3.3 rpg, should be the leading candidate for the National Player of the Year Award. He might have some company for the prestigious award with teammate Shelden Williams, who averaged 15.5 ppg, 11.2 rpg, and 3.7 bpg. McRoberts was the number one overall rated player coming out of high school and Paulus was a top point guard.

One of the problems with last year's Duke team was a lack of depth, which inevitably led to foul trouble and fatigue late in a game. This year's version of the Dukies should not be sucking wind come crunch time.

With plenty of underclassmen and experienced seniors, Duke should be in Indianapolis playing

for the National Championship. Throw in the fact that Coach K is running the show, arguably one of the greatest coaches in the history of the game, the Devils are definitely the team to beat - not only in the ACC, but also in the national picture.

In the ACC, the majority of the teams are down or rebuilding, with the exception of conference newcomer Boston College, who is returning all five starters from last year's 25-5 team.

UNC has lost seven players to the NBA and are definitely in a rebuilding stage. NC State lost All-ACC player Julius Hodge, but are returning some talented players including senior Illian Evtimov. The Wake Forest Demon Deacons are without point guard Chris Paul, who is now in the NBA, but are still with guard Justin Gray and forward Eric Williams.

Along with these teams, Maryland should field a team that will hold its own with Nick Caner-Medley returning, but will feel the loss of guard John Gilchrist who is also in the NBA. Georgia Tech is also in a rebuilding year with the losses of guards Jarret Jack and B.J. Elder, but the loss of center Luke Schenscher may hurt the Jackets the most.

The two surprise teams in the ACC last year, newcomers Miami and Virginia Tech, will look to continue to prove that they belong in the ACC. Florida State and Virginia round out the ACC's "down year." So with all this rebuilding going on, the Dukies should be looking at an

ACC championship. Then again, this is the ACC - the cream of the crop in college basketball, where nothing is easy and no one is a pushover.

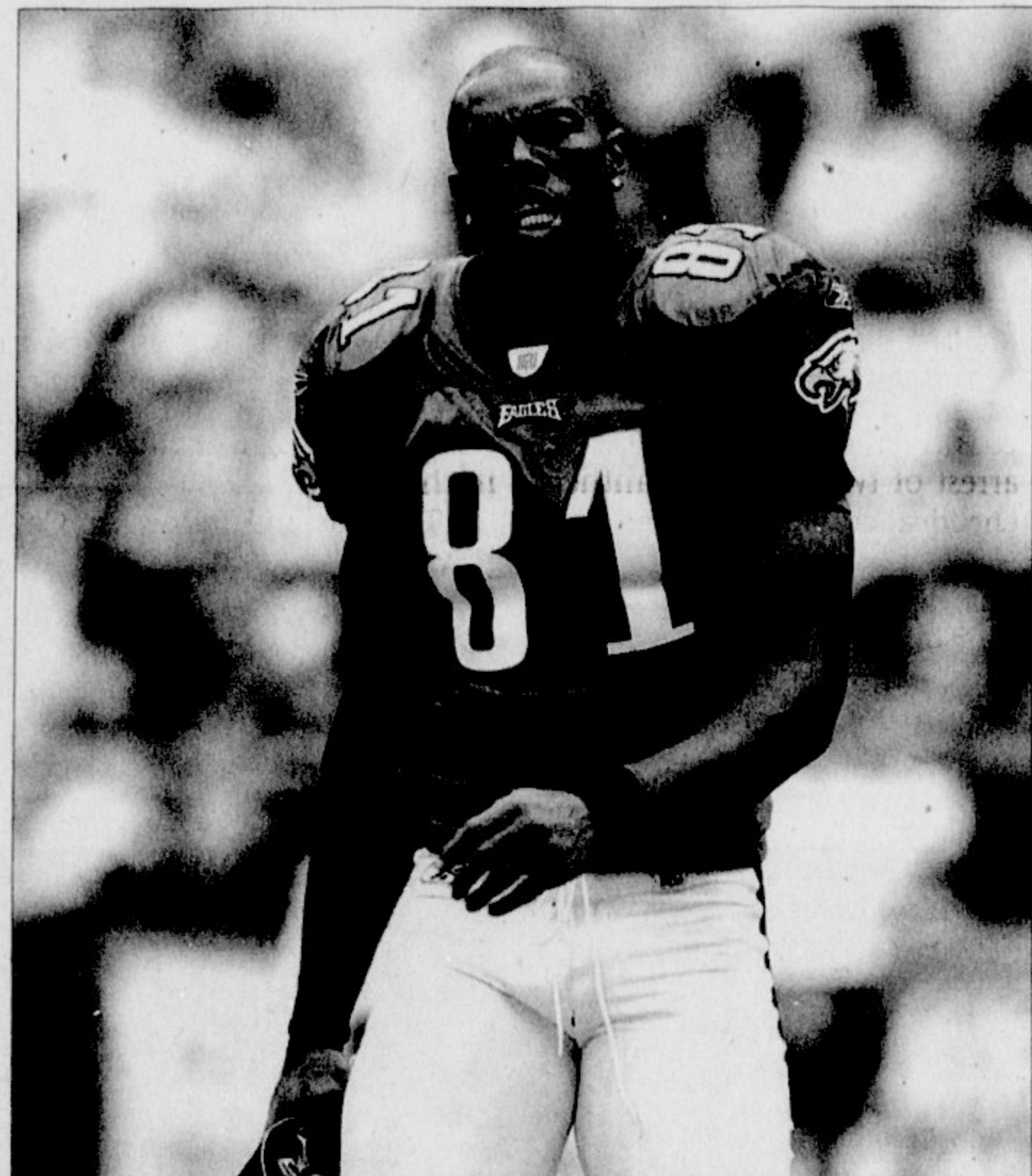
In the national view of things, the contenders from last year's tournament are also experiencing down years. UCONN is returning some star power from suspension and injuries, but guard A.J. Price is suspended for the season for stealing laptop computers from university dormitories. Also the Huskies lost forward Charlie Villanueva to the NBA.

Texas appears to be a team on the rise, with the return of guard P.J. Tucker, who was ruled academically ineligible for the second half of last season, and also they are returning outstanding sophomore Daniel Gibson, who averaged 14.2 ppg, 3.9 apg, and 3.9 rpg in his freshman year last season.

Villanova also looks pretty stacked this upcoming season, with all five starters returning from a 24-8 record last year and an appearance in the sweet sixteen.

So with 64 teams in the "Big Dance," anything can happen when it comes tournament time, but Duke definitely has the edge over the rest in experience and coaching, not to mention in fans (the Cameron Craze). Anything less than a title for Duke in 2006 would be a severe disappointment with the talent they will be bringing to the table.

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



Owens has been suspended for four games by the Eagles.

Eagles: Owens won't return after suspension

(AP) — The Philadelphia Eagles have had enough.

Terrell Owens' brief but tumultuous time in Philadelphia ended Monday when the All-Pro wide receiver was told not to return to the team this season.

"This decision is a result of a large number of situations that accumulated over a long period of time, during which Terrell had been warned repeatedly about the consequences of his actions," Eagles coach Andy Reid said.

Owens was suspended for Sunday night's 17-10 loss at Washington, and will remain suspended for three more games without pay. After that, the Eagles plan to deactivate him for the rest of the season.

Though he's perhaps the best wideout in the NFL, Owens caused far too many distractions with his selfish behavior.

"We gave Terrell every opportunity to avoid this outcome," Reid said.

Owens and agent Drew Rosenhaus scheduled a Tuesday news conference at the player's house in Moorestown, N.J.

Owens was suspended Saturday, two days after he said the Eagles showed "a lack of class" for not publicly recognizing his 100th career touchdown catch in a game on Oct. 23. In the same interview with ESPN.com on Thursday, Owens said the Eagles would be better off with Green Bay's Brett Favre at quarterback

instead of Donovan McNabb.

Owens also was involved in a fight last week with former Eagles defensive end Hugh Douglas, who remains with the team as its "ambassador." Owens apologized for his comments about the organization in a brief statement Friday, but didn't apologize to McNabb or the team.

"The league has been notified by the players' union that they will be grieving our right to take that action," Reid said, "therefore there is nothing more that I can say at this point."

Owens summoned police to his house late Monday because there were some people on his property. He said he wanted to be left alone, had no comment and would contact the news media when he did want to speak, police at the scene said.

Later, two pizzas were delivered to Owens' home. Someone answered the door, not Owens, and gave deliveryman James McDevitt a \$5 tip. McDevitt said he left the tip on the doorstep.

Rosenhaus, refused to comment. Owens' relationship with the Eagles took a drastic turn after he fired longtime agent David Joseph, hired Rosenhaus and demanded a new contract just one season into the seven-year, \$48.97 million deal he signed when he came to Philadelphia in March 2004.

see OWENS page A8

NBA's new rules on apparel are good fit for most players

(KRT) — There have been no reports of players thumbing their noses at the league with throwbacks.

So far, no NBA player seems to be causing a to-do with do-rags or shades to stick it to Commissioner David Stern.

Even Philadelphia star Allen Iverson, whose usual appearance away from the court violates pretty much every facet of the NBA's new "business casual" dress code, said he's ready to conform.

"I don't have a problem with it," Iverson said as the season opened and the dress code went into effect. "I'll do it for the rest of the season."

The current calm is in contrast to some players' views when the league announced the new dress code in the preseason. At the time some players called the dress code unfair, unnecessary, an attack on hip-hop culture and even racist.

None of that is true, according to Stern. He said the dress code, part of the collective bargaining negotiations with the players' union in the spring, is intended to improve the image of the league.

Stern said a big part of that effort is related to the brawl between Indiana Pacers players and Detroit Pistons fans last November, which he called "a low point in the perception of our league." But he strongly denied that explicit pressure from the league's business

partners was a factor. If the dress code affects black players more than others it is more because of circumstance than design, Stern said.

"There is nothing we do that doesn't affect several hundred young African-American men," Stern said, referring to the high percentage of blacks among the league's 450 players. "But you can't play the race card here without it getting flipped back at you."

The dress code also specifically bans, while on "league or team business," sports apparel including jerseys, headphones, headgear and sunglasses worn indoors.

All those items, including flashy jewelry, are elements of hip-hop style, which the league has embraced in some ways in an effort to appeal to young fans. It plays rap music at its arenas, has used hip-hop acts at recent All-Star games, has signed deals with urban apparel manufacturers such as FUBU and cashed in on the throwback jersey trend.

Some players viewed the dress code as a step by the league to eliminate that influence.

In response to such player criticism, Stern noted that only a fraction of the league's players have been quoted as speaking against the dress code. He said 28 of the league's 30 teams already had their own dress code, though some had been lax with enforcement.

see NBA page A8



LeBron James dresses accordingly for the NBA's new dress code.

Owens embodies all that's bad about pro sports

KRT — The thing about Leon was that Leon was a joke whom we looked forward to for a good laugh.

"Leon's whole career is like a highlight reel, baby," Leon states on his Web site maintained by his sponsor, Budweiser. "My personal favorite moment came during the 1995 playoffs. We were down 14-10 in the final two minutes of the game and who gets the call? Leon. It was a call from my publicist, Tina, who had just landed a sweet photo op with me and the cheerleaders after the game."

The thing about Leon's real-life alter ego, Terrell Owens, is that he's just a joke, period.

It is difficult at this moment to think of a more conceited character in the egotistical history of the self-absorbed world of professional athletics than the narcissistic fellow we've all come to know as T.O., which, come to think of it, rhymes with pee-oh. He has taken self-indulgence to a level not even Leon could've invented.

No wonder his latest employers, the Philadelphia Eagles, announced Monday that they'd had enough, kicking the attention-starved wide receiver off the team for the rest of the season, if not for good. What got Owens riled most recently? Was it his team's surprising struggles during the season's first half? No. Was it the momentum it lost coming off last season's Super Bowl? No. Was it even an understandable bout with ego, like the team wasn't calling his number enough and he felt he could help more? No.

It was that the club didn't recognize to his satisfaction the 100th career touchdown reception of his career.

"It just shows a lack of class they have," Owens railed on ESPN.com last Thursday. "My publicist talked to the head PR guy, and they made an excuse they didn't recognize that was coming up. But that was a blatant lie. Had it been somebody else, they probably would have popped fireworks around the stadium."

And with Michael Irvin inexplicably egging him on in an ESPN television interview, Owens also continued throwing barbs at his quarterback, Donovan McNabb, for no good reason. After all, he'd caught 47 passes for 763 and six touchdowns from McNabb through seven games, which made him, once again, one of the most prolific and dangerous receivers in the game.

Along with a locker room fistfight Owens got into with former Eagles defensive end Hugh Douglas last week, the public tongue-lashing of his

quarterback led to Owens getting suspended from Sunday night's contest at Washington.

Not that Owens cared. For if there is one thing he's made clear during his career, it is that he plays solely for himself.

He ought to be a golfer. A tennis player. A marathon runner. One of those adventurers who only does things by his or her lonesome.

The concept of team is anathema to Owens. He was one of those kids in kindergarten who got a check mark on his progress report next to "no" after the statement "plays well with others."

Even Leon understood the importance of team play.

"I gotta step back once in a while and give other athletes some air time," he states. "Leon tends to steal the show. I mean, that's one day you get Leon the other 364."

What is most mind-boggling about Owens is that so many people have, in fact, gone the extra mile just for him. He seems to have forgotten that he should be with Baltimore trying to catch passes from one of its lousy quarterbacks. That was due to a foul-up by his original agent, David Joseph, who failed to file his free-agent paperwork in time, leaving him property of the 49ers, who then traded him to the Ravens.

Owens broke into a tantrum, not unlike a kindergartner, and after a series of negotiations, he got his way, which was a trade to Super Bowl-contender Philadelphia to play with Pro Bowler McNabb.

Then Owens signed a seven-year \$49 million deal against the advice of the players' union.

Earlier this year, Owens hired loudmouth agent Drew Rosenhaus and immediately announced he was unhappy with his year-old contract and needed a bigger deal to "feed his family." He threatened to hold out of training camp, and a confrontation with coach Andy Reid led to a one-week suspension before the season kicked off.

The Eagles, however, refused to renegotiate the deal Owens had just signed. Good for them. Now they're refusing to pay Owens \$800,000 in salary for the next four games, which is the most they can suspend him under the labor-management agreement.

They're willing, however, to give their royal pain in the gluteus maximus the rest of his salary, roughly \$1 million, and have him stay away. Given what we know of Terrell Owens, it's not having a platform that'll hurt him the most.

Carolina Panthers' cheerleader sex scandal creating major buzz

KRT — Take cheerleaders, dude, two of them, reports of sex and bathroom fights, and the raving imaginations of heterosexual guys, and you get a Monday morning with little work done.

In staid work cubicles around Charlotte and across the country, the lascivious tale of the arrest of two Carolina Panthers cheerleaders was catapulted from water-cooler talk to Internet phenomenon.

The story ranked among the top three most-viewed in charlotte.com's nine-year history. On ESPN.com, more people e-mailed it to friends Monday than any other story.

The Panthers' Web site, which features photos of its cheerleaders, bent under so many hits that it was shut down.

It all began early Sunday when customers at a Tampa nightclub complained that the two cheerleaders were engaged in sexual activity in a bathroom stall, according to police. A fight followed and police arrested the two women.

Internet surfers followed

every twist and turn as the story continued to unfold Monday:

Renee Thomas, a 20-year-old UNC Charlotte student, was charged with using the driver's license of fellow cheerleader Kristen Owen. Thomas could face up to a year in prison on that charge, and is also charged with punching a third woman in the face.

Thomas and fellow TopCat Angela Keathley, the other woman arrested, were booted from the squad for violating its code of conduct, which bans behavior that's embarrassing. Keathley is charged with resisting arrest. Neither could be reached for comment Monday.

Owen was suspended indefinitely for violating the code of conduct.

Among the questions swirling Monday: How did Thomas get Owen's license? Owen's mother told the Charlotte Observer on Sunday night it had been stolen. Tampa detectives were still investigating.

The women were in Tampa for the Panthers game with the Buccaneers. The cheerleading

squad does not appear at out-of-town games and the women were in the city on their own.

Netizens stormed onto Web sites Monday swapping everything from wistful requests ("pics, please?") to expressions of disappointment ("My little girl loves the TopCats. How do you explain this to a 10-year-old?")

On macrumors.com, one thread is titled simply, "Giggidy-giggidy-giggidy-giggidy!"

On Fark.com, a collection of weird news links, so-called "Farkers" posted over 250 comments on the relative attractiveness of each cheerleader. One post asked: "So, it would also have been spiffy if it had been two of the Panthers who got caught doing the deed in the john, right?"

"It's titillating," said Clay Johanson, a 37-year-old independent Web designer in Charlotte. Johanson estimates he spent two hours total posting updates on the TopCats story on various Web sites, and searching for more on his own.

"You ask 100 guys, and 75 of them are going to be, 'Oh, yeah!'"

It's probably more than that, but this is Charlotte, and I'm going to be conservative."

The TopCats turn heads in their short skirts, tight tops and ankle-high black boots. But most have full-time jobs outside cheerleading, ranging from mechanical engineers to financial analysts.

They build houses for Habitat for Humanity, adopt a family at Christmas and volunteer at the battered women's shelter. They also make public appearances, and have many young admirers.

Roger King, a police officer in the Myrtle Beach area, said his 10-year-old daughter last year attended a junior TopCat camp, where she got to meet members of the squad. He posted his disappointment Monday on charlotte.com's forums.

"A lot more guys are light-hearted about this," King said, trying to figure out how to explain the news to his daughter when she returns from a trip to Chicago. "But they don't have a 10-year-old daughter that's a TopCat."



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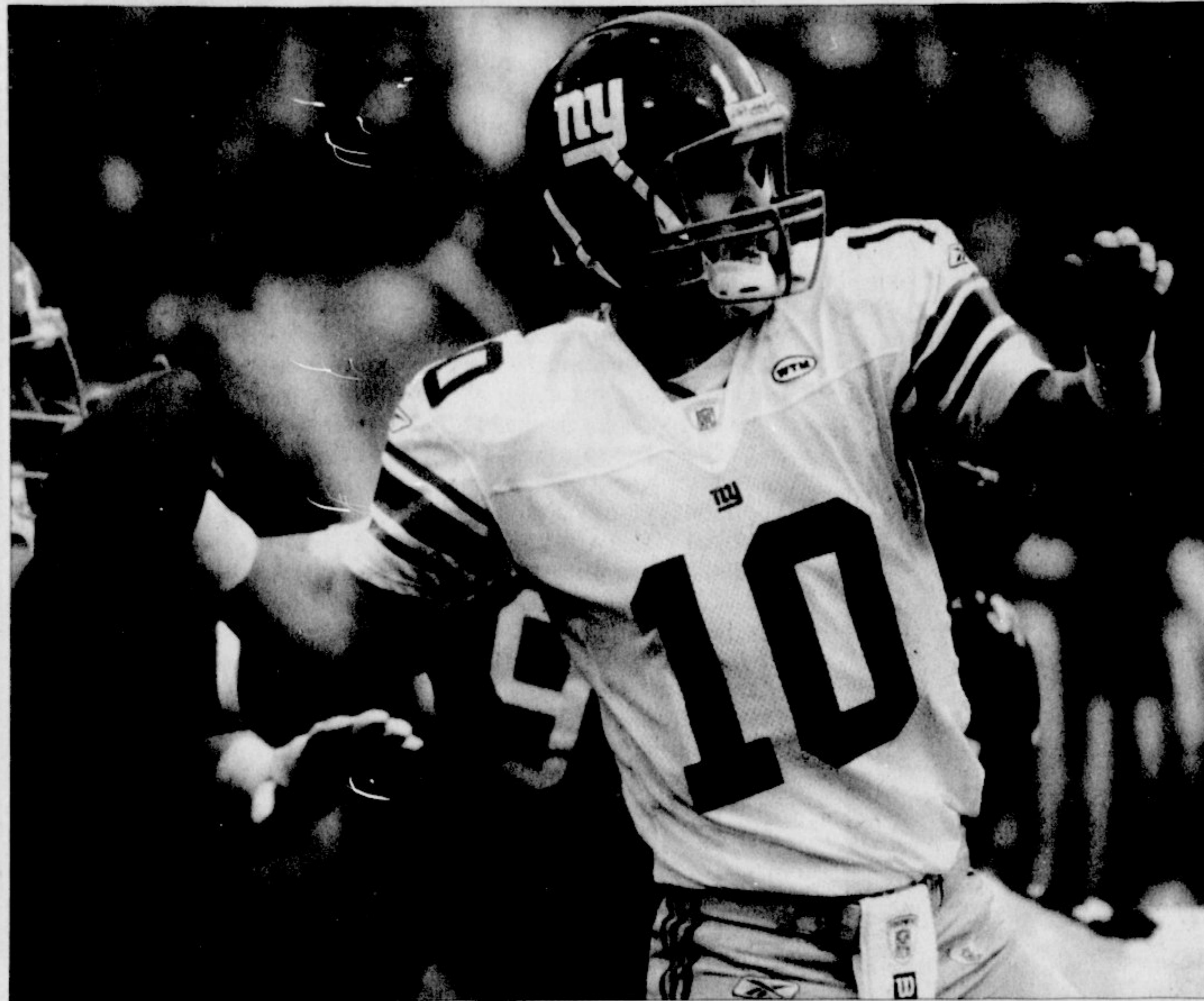
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Coughlin allowing for a little fun with the G-men



Eli Manning is beginning to blossom in his second year as the Giants' signal caller.

KRT—The man is rough and hard as oak bark, but somewhere inside him Tom Coughlin must have known he badly needed this kind of season. Coughlin came in with four straight losing years in the NFL, the last three at 6-10, and nobody ever gets five bad ones in a row unless he's Tom Landry starting up a brand new franchise in Dallas.

Maybe Ernie Accorsi, the GM, would stick by him, but Coughlin would be fired by the Giants' fans and his own players, and that would be it. So he was, still is, under enormous pressure that comes with repeatedly coming up short. He has no Super Bowl in his portfolio, and Coughlin has fashioned a harsh image that requires his players to invest heavily in the program. If you don't buy the schemes, if you don't think they lead to victory, then it is difficult to swallow the rigid layers of formality.

We saw that at the start of this marriage, when the Giants rebelled against Coughlin and basically thought he was just a jerk. The more they lost last year, the more absurd it seemed to have that digital clock set five minutes fast in the locker room.

Then came this season, and suddenly circumstance pulled everyone together. Coughlin and the Giants were in the middle of everything. They opened on 9/11, and then they were a big part of the tragic story in New Orleans, playing the Saints at home instead of on the road, before a nation of curious view-

ers. A couple weeks ago Wellington Mara died, and now the players wear his initials above their chest.

It was one thing after another, to pull and tug this franchise in one direction. But the most amazing thing that Coughlin has done - and this is not something you would ever think likely from the stoic man - is that he has made the Giants fun to watch.

Fun is not something you associate with Coughlin or with the Giants franchise, even back when they were winning championships, using power football and a corps of rapacious linebackers. The Giants, at their best, were efficient and mean, and they ran you into the ground on both sides of the ball.

This season, we are getting something different. We are still getting decent defense, which bends without breaking in the red zone. But we are also witnessing a new look, a fresh daring. We are getting Eli Manning looking downfield, throwing deep to Jeremy Shockey, on fourth-and-1.

You just needed to see that call from Coughlin in the second quarter on Sunday to know Coughlin's circle of trust has grown to include Manning. A year ago, Coughlin admitted, he never would have put his young quarterback in that position, never taken that chance.

"Would I put him in that situation last year? Probably not in a tight ballgame, fourth down," Coughlin said Monday. "Their personnel indicated run.

We thought we had a shot, and we took it."

They are taking plenty of shots, opening things up in a way that makes the Giants one of the more entertaining teams in the league. They are 12th in the league in offense, averaging 340.4 yards per game (they averaged 295.1 last season). Only eight other teams are averaging more yards per play, and the Giants are attempting more than 32 passes a game (compared to 29.7 last year).

Here is the irony: Jim Fassel, who was a much more affable personality, never loosened up with his offense. He didn't have Manning, and he didn't have a playmaker like Plaxico Burress. But it is still hard to imagine Fassel, even with this personnel, asking Manning to sidestep pressure in the pocket and wait, to read his options, and to hit Shockey on that fourth-and-1.

What happens next? The schedule tightens in two weeks. It is not impossible that the Giants go into a homely swoon and Coughlin ends up with that fifth straight losing season.

For now, you step back and watch a desperately hungry coach and his football team climb the standings as a daredevil act. The Giants are fun, for a change, and Coughlin is learning to smile a bit as he goes.

Usually, we are firing coaches for losing just as they are learning what it may take to win. Coughlin may have survived the worst, a wiser man, still head coach of an NFL team.

Football from page A6

bracket. Despite being the underdog, Bucho proved that they were not to be messed with as they shut out their more decorated opponent which included several former ECU Pirate football players 19-0. "It felt real good to win the championship this year," said Bucho captain, Blake Dameron. "I don't think anyone gave us a chance. We played in purple league all year and we were

bumped up to gold for the playoffs. No one gave us a chance and we won, so it felt real good."

In the fraternity purple game Chi Phi dominated SAE 21-0. Things did not get better for SAE as they fell again in the fraternity gold game 7-0 to Pike. The gold game was a battle of the defense as Pike was able to put up the only score in the first half of play. Overall most students enjoyed

the experience not only of the championship night, but the entire flag football season. As games were played throughout the season, both competition and friendship formed. In the end only the best of the competition remained as they were crowned ECU Flag Football Champions.

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

Owens from page A6

Owens is scheduled to earn \$3.25 million this season, meaning the four-game suspension would cost him almost \$800,000.

The Eagles will have to pay Owens nearly \$1 million to stay home the final five games. They could've simply released him already, but they didn't want his signing bonus to affect the salary cap or allow him to go to another team.

Owens will either be traded or cut after the season. He's due to receive a \$5 million roster bonus in March 2006, so the Eagles will decide his fate before then.

Owens made more than \$9 million last season, when he helped lead Philadelphia to the Super Bowl.

Two years ago, the Tampa Bay Buccaneers decided they'd had enough of Keyshawn Johnson and made a similar move.

After Johnson criticized coach Jon Gruden, the Super Bowl champion Bucs deactivated the star receiver and sent him home for the final six games with pay.

The Eagles are 4-4 this season. And McNabb, who feuded with Owens throughout the summer and has been a constant target of his criticism, finally took a stand in the matter, saying the

team might be "better off" without Owens.

"Obviously it is tough losing a guy of his caliber, his ability, but I think we might be better off," McNabb said after throwing an interception that sealed the loss to Washington.

"We're 4-4. We're not 1-7. I think that's the way to look at it. For the guys in the locker room, we win together and we lose together," he said.

Asked to elaborate on how the team could be better off without its top receiver, McNabb emphasized the remaining players are united with the same goal of winning.

Rookie Reggie Brown filled in for Owens against Washington and caught five passes for 94 yards, including a 56-yard TD reception. But the Eagles' offense continued to struggle and couldn't score the tying touchdown with three shots from the Redskins 7 in the final minutes.

The Eagles were 17-5 with Owens, including a 24-21 loss to New England in the Super Bowl. In that game, Owens had nine catches for 122 yards after defying his doctor's advice and playing 6 1/2 weeks after ankle surgery.

They're 2-1 without him in games that matter, winning twice in the NFC playoffs.

This was the second time Owens has been suspended during his controversial 10-year career. In 2000, he was suspended one game by San Francisco coach Steve Mariucci following his infamous touchdown celebrations on the Dallas Cowboys' star logo at the center of Texas Stadium.

Owens clashed with management this summer and earned a one-week exile from training camp after a heated dispute with Reid that followed a shouting match with offensive coordinator Brad Childress.

Owens forced a trade to the Eagles last year after eight seasons with the 49ers and invigorated the offense with his superior skills. He had 77 catches for 1,200 yards and 14 TDs in 14 games.

Soon after Philadelphia lost to the Patriots, Owens took his first shot at McNabb, suggesting the five-time Pro Bowl quarterback was tired in the fourth quarter of the loss.

McNabb responded harshly and the two didn't speak for a prolonged period in training camp. They eventually reconciled their relationship and performed well together on the field Owens has 47 catches for 763 yards and six TDs this season.

However, Owens continued to throw verbal jabs at McNabb.

NBA from page A7

The Miami Heat, for instance, already had a dress code similar to the one adopted by the league, though chains and headphones were not forbidden. Heat forward Udonis Haslem had a particular problem with the ban on headphones when players arrive at and leave arenas.

"I don't see what that has to do with image or anything like that," Haslem said. "Everyone wears headphones. Does that present a negative image by wearing your headphones when you are entering the arena?"

"For all they know, you could be listening to gospel."

Heat guard Dwyane Wade said he wasn't sure if there was a racial element to the dress code. He was among players who said the dress code is only a cosmetic change and that "the real person is going to come out no matter what clothes they are wearing."

To Heat center Alonzo Mourning, the two go hand

in hand. He said a dress code wasn't needed but is "appropriate" because Stern is trying to sell a product and that the product needs to be presented in a way that customers want.

Mourning, 35, said he is a fan of hip-hop music but that some facets of that image are not appropriate for the business of the NBA. He said the business success of Michael Jordan, who almost always appeared publicly in suits as a player, showed that image can be important to making money.

"What (Stern) is trying to do is improve the image of the league; he is not trying to run anybody's life," Mourning said.

It's not clear, though, if the NBA even needed to improve its image. The league set a record last season with average attendance of 17,313, and the year before had its highest attendance since Jordan retired for the final time.

A survey commissioned by

Dockers, the clothing brand, after the dress code was announced didn't show an overwhelmingly negative view of players among fans.

Of the respondents who identified themselves as NBA fans, 38 percent of men and 37 percent of women answered "yes" or "somewhat" when asked if they thought the way NBA players dress is a negative reflection of the league. But when the NBA fans were asked if they supported the new dress code, 62 percent of men and 45 percent of women said yes.


Stern said the league is at the forefront of a cultural discussion. He said his feedback indicates that families and classrooms use the dress code to talk about "standards, professionalism, discipline."

"It struck a chord with a lot of people and (they) wanted to talk about it," Stern said. "They use sports to talk about these things. We are in the middle of a debate now."

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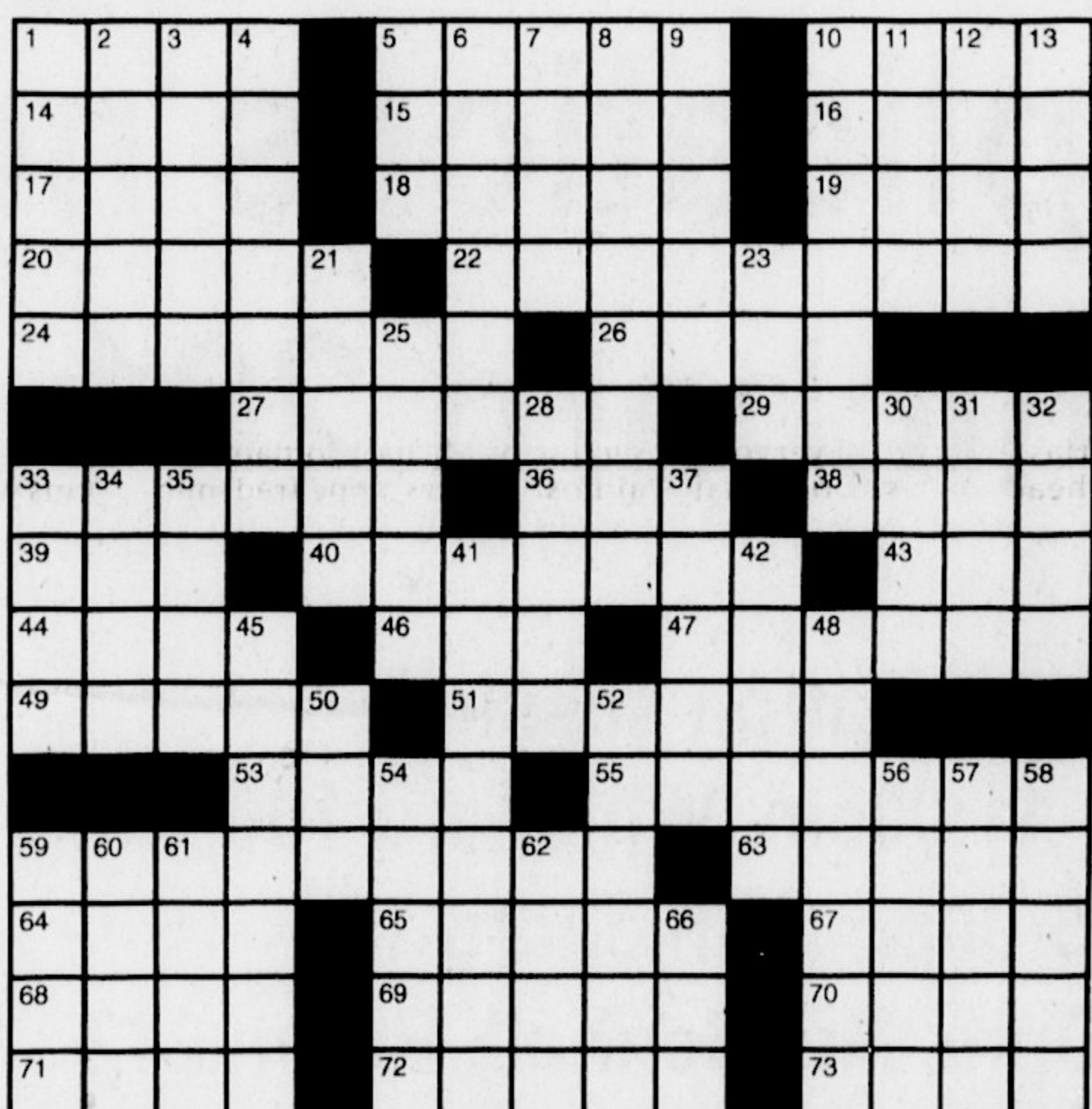
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 - Big screen superstar
 - Packing heat
 - Gray wolf
 - Summerville or Pickens
 - Sea's end?
 - Religious image
 - Goose eggs
 - Comparisons based on similarities
 - Capital on the Delaware
 - Low in fat
 - Obliterate
 - Irritable
 - Assembling
 - Winter hrs. in Boston
 - Be gutsy
 - Circle part
 - Speaker's stand
 - Pastoral spot
 - Jet-set jet
 - Greek letter
 - Lent follower
 - Work
 - Put in a box
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 - Inflexible
 - Information collection
 - One cubic decimeter
 - Coup d'
 - Jocularity
 - Lima's country
 - Alaska port
 - Yogi of baseball
 - Five-star review
 - Went fast
 - Fiery felony
 - Actor Sharif
- DOWN**
- Composer Franz
 - Couch potato
 - French river
 - Ellipsoidal nuts
 - More in Mexico
 - Mysterious
 - Fed
 - Language of Katmandu
 - Fred's first partner
 - Trued up
 - Focal points
 - Tubular woodwind
 - Many, many millennia
 - Harden
 - Cereal grain
 - More senior
 - Range of the Rockies
 - Table seasoning
 - Baobab or banyan
 - Calendar length
 - Galleria
 - Neighborhood
 - Sign of healing
 - Tire feature
 - More shoddy
 - Twangy
 - Spun
 - Part-time athlete
 - Chest bone
 - Fidel of Cuba
 - Deadly African snake
 - Mr. T's outfit
 - Emperor before Trajan
 - More authentic
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 - Domesticated
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The K CHRONICLES

ANOTHER THING I REALLY LOVE ABOUT MY WIFE'S FAMILY IS THAT THEY'RE REALLY INTO THE WHOLE NATURE THING... I THINK THEY WERE RAISED BY WOLVES OR SOMETHING.

THEIR FAVORITE SPOT THE LAST TIME THEY WERE HERE WAS THE ANO NUEVO STATE RESERVE... DOWN ALONG THE CALIFORNIA COAST JUST BELOW SAN FRANCISCO...

ANYHOW...WHILE THE WIFE WAS WALKING TOWARDS THE BEACH THAT DAY, SHE HEARD SQUEAKING COMING FROM THE BUSHES...

WHEN SHE PARTED THE BUSHES... SHE NOTICED A TINY LITTLE MOUSE WAS MAKING THE NOISES...

MY WIFE SEES NOTHING BUT BEATS SEES THE MIRACLE OF NATURE IN THE FLESH!!

SHE THEN NOTICED THAT THAT TINY LITTLE MOUSE... WAS BEING EATEN ALIVE BY A KING SNAKE!!

AAAAAUGH!!!

Wow. How come you guys are back from the beach so quickly?

We've decided to watch some Jackie Chan videos.

www.kchronicles.com

A College Girl Named Joe

I'M KIND OF SURPRISED YOU'RE SO INTO THIS NEW GUY, MONYA.

IT SOUNDS PRETTY SERIOUS.

NAH! WE'RE JUST HAVING FUN.

WE HAD SOME FUN GOLFING, AND HAD SOME FUN AT THE PARK AND AFTER DINNER WE'RE HAVING FUN BACK AT HIS PLACE.

www.amozingart.com

Two Dudes

HAVE YOU SEEN MY CELL PHONE, DUDE? I THINK I LOST IT.

CALL YOUR OWN NUMBER, DUDE. YOU'LL KNOW WHERE IT IS WHEN YOU HEAR IT RING.

I ALREADY THOUGHT OF THAT, DUDE. THAT'S WHY I'M TRYING TO FIND IT.

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HAD NOGS

WHAT? FIRST OF ALL, I SAID "KIDNAP," NOT "KILL," AND IT TURNS OUT SHE DOESN'T EVEN HAVE A DOG!

SECOND, HER NEIGHBORS DO HAVE A DOG, AND THEIR HOUSES LOOK VERY SIMILAR AT NIGHT.

THIRD, SOMEONE'S GETTING A PUPPY FOR CHRISTMAS!

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—OA 2004



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