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WUAG ROCKS

See photos from WUAG's free concert on Oct. 29 featuring Serka, A Problem of Alarming Dimensions and Roots of Orchis.

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Touring cast of Rent doesn't have what it takes

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November 6,2003 The Carolinian CAROLINIANONLINE.COM | UNC GREENSBORO THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2003

Textbooks cheaper overseas

More students than ever are buying books online from abroad and saving big.

Anna Liles Staff Writer

Every time a new semester rolls around, a collective wail rises from campus bookstores across the country. It's no secret: college students pay a lot for their books.

Inevitably, some students wonder whether there's some dingy bookstore downtown, hidden under a takeout restaurant, where they can get their books for half price - the stuff of urban legend.

Actually, such places exist, but they're farther away than many

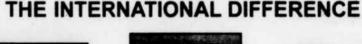
would think.

According to an Oct.21 article in The New York Times, American college students are finding their textbooks for half the usual price overseas at places like Amazon.co.uk.

Two college students from Williams College created their own website, bookcentral.com, after they discovered that the very same college textbooks used in the United States sell for half price- or less- in England. After three years of work, they began selling textbooks from overseas to American students, pulling down massive profits.

International re-selling of textbooks has become common. For example, an American college sophomore at an unnamed university imported 30 biology books from

Continued on page 2



THE CELL

Molecular Biology of

the Cell

Bruce Alberts, et al



The Cosmic Perspective Jeffrey Bennett, et al

Amazon.com: \$88 Amazon.com: \$114 Amazon.co.uk: \$72 Amazon.co.uk: \$76

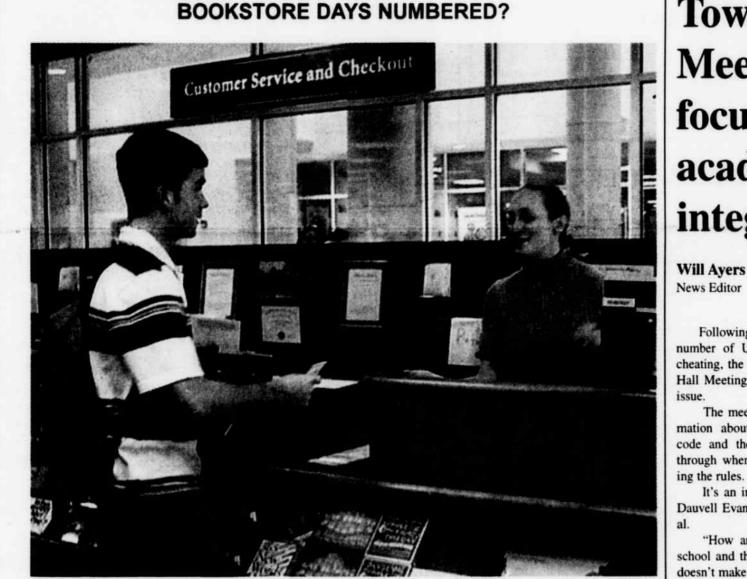


N860

Principles of Biochemistry David Nelson, et al

Amazon.com: \$150 Amazon.co.uk: \$79

All prices are approximate and include shipping. Amazon.co.uk prices converted to USD from GBP at Nov. 4 rate.



Town Hall Meeting to focus on academic integrity

News Editor

Following a recent uptick in the number of UNCG students caught

Guest Column

Rae Marcus adds a feminist touch to the opinion section.

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SNOW DAYS

Kelly Snow vents his frustration about the current college football system.

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THE CAROLINIAN VOL. LXXXIV **ISSUE 1** EST 1919

STAFF PHOTO | ROSEMARY YELTON

Doug Haan, sophomore, forking over cash at the UNCG bookstore in the EUC. Recently many students have found textbooks are cheaper when bought overseas, especially at websites like amazon.co.uk.

Julius Chambers speaks

Civil rights lawyer discusses re-segregation in Greensboro and across the country

Hilary Hellens Staff Writer

Julius Chambers, renowned civil rights lawyer, shared his story with a full EUC auditorium on Oct. 29. Chambers spoke on the anniversary of the Brown v.. Board of Education decision, which stated separate educational facilities for blacks and whites were "inherently unequal."

Chambers, founder of the first integrated law firm in Charlotte. helped shape civil rights by winning the benchmark Supreme Court case Swann v. The Charlotte Mecklenburg Board of Education. This case led to federally mandated busing, and helped to integrate public schools across the country.

In 1984, Chambers left the firm and became director-counsel of the Legal Defense Fund of the NAACP.

Chambers was introduced with much fanfare, including a song by the Neo Black Society Choir and a reading from Dr. Martin Luther King's letter

from a Birmingham County Jail.

"The court can make life difficult for us that are trying to promote diversity," said Chambers. "I think everybody should be up in arms for Mr. Bush's most recent appointments to the Supreme Court."

He said the additions are not full supporters of racial diversity, adding that schools have become re-segregated across North Carolina and other states.

"We are re-segregating at a rate that makes us more segregated than we started," said Chambers, shaking his head. "In 1965, we were still talking about it. I didn't think we would be, nor did I think that in 2003 we would still be talking about it."

"Tonight was the first time that I heard about the re- segregation of the schools. You have to ask yourself: it's been fifty years, how we have we not moved forward?" said Elizabeth Cruz, sophomore, who attended the speech.

Chambers said re-segregation is taking place everywhere, including Greensboro.

"When you regress to segregation, if that keeps going it can lend itself to the same hate, and racial conflicts. Division harbors more division," said Justin Dickson, and audience member.

"We are retreating to living in racially segregated neighborhoods," said Michael Cauthen, professor of African American studies. "We can legislate where students go to school, but we can't legislate where they live."

What about UNCG, a campus many call exceptionally diverse?

"We have made a lot of progress on this campus. The fact that re- segregation is happening is chilling," said Tom Gaffney, director of the College of Arts and Sciences.

Chambers ended his speech with a question to challenge the UNCG community and beyond: "When will we bring our people black, and white, brown and red together as one in America?"

cheating, the SGA is having a Town Hall Meeting tonight to address the

The meeting will present information about the academic honor code and the process students go through when they're caught breaking the rules.

It's an important problem, says Dauvell Evans, SGA attorney gener-

"How are you gonna come to school and then cheat?" he said. "It doesn't make sense."

In 2002, 52 academic integrity violations were reported, up from 33 in 2001. These figures are low compared to the 2002 cases at other schols like UNC (83) and Appalachian State (67), but Evans said any kind of increase is bad.

"I think a lot more students are cheating because it's a lot easier out on the Internet," he said. "You can just go out and download a paper."

Evans, who has organized and promoted the event, has served as a student justice and case coordinator for the honor code court, where students are tried for violations like plaigarism and cheating. He says his experience has helped him see the importance of knowing the rules.

"Many students don't know what plaigarism is or don't know you can't turn in the same paper for four classes, and it's eating them alive," he said.

"I don't expect everyone to go," he added, "but students who care about their careers, who pay to go here, or who are planning to go to grad school, to medical school, should come."

WHAT?

SGA Town Hall Meeting WHERE? Claxton Room, EUC WHEN? Tonight, 7 p.m.

CAMPUS

Textbooks from page 1

more at an unnamed university imported 30 biology books from England this fall. He then sold them outside of his classroom for less than the campus bookstore price, netting a \$1,200 profit.

BookCentral.com isn't the only site American students take advantage of when shopping for textbooks. According to the article, Amazon.co.uk offers lower prices on the same books as Amazon.com.

As tempting as this offer may sound, many UNCG students say they are a little uneasy about buy books online.

"I probably won't ever buy mine online," said Vulnavia Scales, a freshman. "I like to see my transactions being made. I like being able to give them my money and getting books back in return."

Some, though, are ahead of the game.

"I already buy my books online," said Amber Wheeler, sophomore. "They are just cheaper that way."

One topic students agree on is the price of textbooks:both Scales and Wheeler agree that books are overpriced.

"I think the prices we have to pay are just ridiculous," said Scales. "It's bad enough that we have to pay so much for tuition, not to mention that the price of it is going to be going up. It's just bad having to pay 100-200 dollars for just one book."

"Books are just way too expensive," said Wheeler. "College costs enough already. Then on top of that, we have to pay 400-500 dollars each semester for just our books. I think that is outrageous."

With more students than ever turning to the Internet to shop for books, it stands to reason that the UNCG bookstore's business would start to suffer. But according to Brad Light, the UNCG bookstore manager, nothing has changed — yet.

"As far as we can tell, our sales have not been affected," said Light. "I still think that with students, there's still the perception that books are cheaper online.

"Many students don't realize how hard it is to return books online," said Light. "We make returning textbooks very easy for students."

Wheeler disagreed.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2003

"I have never had a problem returning any of my books online," said Wheeler. "I use TexbooksX.com."

Even though he deals with books all day, Light said he doesn't know why textbooks cost so much.

"I don't know why books are so expensive. Everyone is just trying to make money off of one book and that makes the price go up," said Light. "That's just something that goes back to publishers' hands."

Light added that buying textbooks at UNCG is much cheaper than many other American bookstores.

"Our mark-up is monitored," he said. "In fact, our mark up is lower than the national average."



PHOTOS BY JENNIE CREASSER / SPECIAL TO THE CAROLINIAN



-7-10:00 am - 9:00 pm Holiday market, Greensboro

Community Calendar

November 6 - November II 2003

6:00 pm Mixology 101: Learn What Bartenders Already

7:00 pm SGA Town Hall Meeting: Academic Integrity,

8:00 pm Monthly Comedy Show, Cone Ballroom EUC

Coliseum

Know, Corner Bar

Claxton Room EUC

8:00 pm MFA Thesis Concert: Tracie Foster, Dance Theater HHP

-8-

10:00 am - 9:00 pm Holiday market, Greensboro Coliseum 8:00 pm MFA Thesis Concert: Tracie Foster, Dance

Theater HHP



12 :00pm - 6 :00p.m. Luca Buvoli exhibition opening, Weatherspoon Art Museum (showing until Jan. 25) 12:00 am - 6:00 pm Holiday market, Greensboro Coliseum

8:00 pm Drummers of West Africa, Aycock Auditorium

Corrections

The Carolinian never knowingly publishes false statements. Any necessary corrections or clarifications will be printed in the first possible edition. To notify The Carolinian of a mistake, call (336)334-5752.

Like the sound of keystrokes?

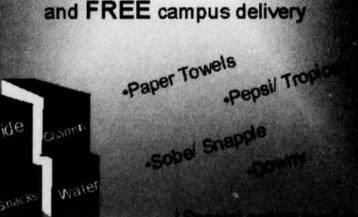
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WUAG held a free show in the Faculty Center on Oct. 29. Clockwise from top left: Greensboro's Serka, San Diego's Roots of Orchis (two photos), and Chapel Hills' A Problem of Alarming Dimensions. Another show is planned for Saturday, Nov. 22 in the same place. Check www.uncg.edu/wua for details.

Ashby Dialogue: Greensboro's Hidden Legacy

University News Service

On November 3, 1979 protestors with the Communist Workers Party hoping to organize textile mill workers, gathered to march; however, in the African-American community where they assembled, the social protest was brought to a halt by the Ku Klux Klan and neo-Nazi members who began shooting into the crowd. Five people were killed, and another 10 were wounded. Two criminal trials later rendered not guilty verdicts. This year's annual Ashby Dialogue will explore the impact of that day on the history of Greensboro. Coordinated by the departments of communication studies, sociology, religious studies and theatre, all events are free of charge and open to the public.

The Ashby Dialogue Fund and Forum is an annual event focusing on interdisciplinary study. The Ashby Dialogue honors the late Dr. Warren Ashby, a faculty member from 1949 to 1985. Changing in its design every year, the forum reflects Ashby's view that the university is "freedom in the search and service of truth."

Event schedule:

Tuesday, Nov. 25, 7-9 p.m. – Greensboro City and County Government Leaders, Elliot University Center, Claxton Room

<u>Tuesday, Dec. 2, 7 - 9 p.m.</u> – Discussion by Greensboro academic panel, Elliot University Center, Claxton Room

> Web www.uncg.edu/wua Emailwuag1031@hotmail.com

WUAG 103.1 FM FALL 2003 PROGRAMMING									
	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	1	Sat	Sun	
1-4 am	Joe Williams The Joe-Jee Show	Sonte Buie and Janmatta Hunn	David Straughton	Bram Kuijer	Bruce, Chris and/or Nck The Sky Kraken Hour	1-4 am	Hope Luning and Joy Cook	Stephanie Cruse	
4-7 am	Angus Mckellar	Karen Senaga	Mike Roohan	Seth Fisher	Achiev Perryman Medic to collect re-	4.7 am	Otto Mayes	Oryan Hildreth	
7-9 am	Melanie Asardon and Lauren Harris 3(aponene)-pap	Adam Garmon Interviews	Liam Hystulian and Noah Arevalo	Jonathan Lusik and Nida Chunchardi	Kristen Southworth	7-10	Winnie Titchener and Katle Zickelosse	Cory Stephenson	
9-11 am	Greg Lewis	Sarah Troider	Mike Testa	Melissa Martin and Kevin Saston	Todd Wood "not Theodore In the Herning"	10 am- 1pm	Steven White and Lauran Alatio	Bryan Higgins	
11am- 1pm rotation	Adman Sherman and Aaron Smith	Brian Millean	Megan Connolly	Kate Peoples	Jernder Creaser	1-4 pm	The Jon Noricas Experience	David Pruitt	
1-3 pm rotation	Laura Brown	Aaron Austin and Lauran Waymouth	Elizabeth Schuldt and Antonia Markou	Jerrod Smith	Josh Barrer	4-7 pm	Matt Jones and TJ Jacquer Music and Sports	Lesley Norton and Heidl Roberson	
3-5 pm new music	Justin Pierce and Piegan Blesner	Cassie Woods and Katle Mariategal	John Carey and Allison Jaynes	Tanner Borskey	Jash Kimbrough	7-10 pm	Aaron Lee and Jason Garrett	Clark Adams Hr. Retro	
5-7 pm new music	Bijuh McCall	Jessica Adland Live Scanse Brass UNCS Thatter	Snakaman and Beastmaster	Carlos Roundree Une Basediage of MPA Crustine Writing	All Mazandarani and Derek Rowley	10 pm - 1am	Davin Singley and Emily Hanasala Plants July Wen't Listen Te	Stephanic Crute and Natt Falling	
7-9 pm specialty	Herk Coletrain Variaty	Erik Chaplinsky Rock Block	Jack Bonney Stoppy Seconds Booting Show	Secondary Theory	D + Shana Name Radio (Mp-Imp)	Serving the Gate City			
9-11 pm specialty	Katie Dulin and Clartssa Long "Nade as the Nevrs"	Hiles Young The "World" at Large	Andrew Shoemaker Said Bastard Hastic	Dan Schipman and Caritale Hayworth Electronica	Carlos Horales Latin Beats	24 hours a day Request line 334 5450			
11pm -	1		Jim Starr	Aaron Rosenthal		Business 334 4308			

CAMPUS

UNCG School of Music Celebrates Ericourt Centennial

University News Service

3

The UNCG School of Music will celebrate the legacy of Daniel Ericourt, former artist-in-residence and world-renowned pianist, with the reissue of his recordings of the complete solo piano works of Claude Debussy.

December 2003 marks the centennial of Ericourt's birth and the rerelease of his music will be celebrated Sunday, Dec. 7, at 7:30 p.m. in the School of Music Recital Hall.

Charles Timbrell, professor of music at Howard University, has been invited to speak on French pianism. Timbrell authored "French Pianism: A Historical Perspective" in 1992, interviewing Ericourt as an expert

source. Timbrell will also play a recently discovered, unpublished work by Debussy. A free reception, open to the public, will follow.

Ericourt's distinguished career as a performer and teacher began in his native France with his first piano lessons at age 6. He was classmates with Aaron Copland while studying with Nadia Boulanger, performed in a benefit concert with Claude Debussy, and taught in Spain with Andres Segovia, Gaspar Cassado and Alicia De Larrocha.

Ericourt moved to the United States in 1926, taking a position with Cincinnati Conservatory. the However, he left in 1934 to devote more time to a concert career and toured the world before returning to

the United States in 1957.

Ericourt came to UNCG in 1963 as artist-in-residence. Here he produced and hosted "The Ericourt Forum of Music and Arts." After 13 years at the School of Music he left the post. In 1979 he was awarded an honorary doctorate from the university. He died in 1998 at the age of 92.

The four-CD set is re-mastered from original recordings Ericourt made in the 1960s for KAPP Records. The CDs are being produced by Ivory Classics and will be available for \$30 a set at www.ivoryclassics.com. They can also be purchased at amazon.com and Borders Books and Music in Greensboro.

Tracie Foster Presents "An Evening of Modern Dance" Nov. 7-8

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2003

University News Service

The UNCG Department of Dance will present Tracie R. Foster's MFA concert, "An Evening of Modern Dance," Friday and Saturday, Nov. 7 and 8, at 8 p.m. in the UNCG Dance Theatre, located on Walker Avenue at Kenilworth Street.

Tickets are \$10 for general admission, \$7 for seniors and students and \$5 for UNCG students. Parking is available in the university lot at the corner of Walker and Aycock avenues and in the Walker Avenue parking deck. For information and ticket reservations, call the University Box Office at (336) 334-4849.

A North Carolina native, Foster earned her B.A. in liberal studies and history from Peace College in 1998. She received her formal dance training from several prestigious schools and companies such as the Joffery Ballet in New York City and the Charleston Ballet Theatre in Charleston, S.C. She has taught, performed and choreographed extensively throughout North Carolina and is currently a faculty member at the High Point Center for Dance and a member of the High Point Ballet. Upon graduation, she plans to continue her affiliation with the High Point Ballet as well as perform, choreograph and teach throughout the state.

will include seven works by seven choreographers:

by Katerina in F minor," the piece is an abstract depiction of one's inner struggles.

 "Luna," choreographed by Jan Van Dyke, is an exploration of movement set to the music of George Winston and danced by Foster.



and down the East Coast.

· "Panus Angelicus," a solo made by Eluza Santos, is a prayer-like, spiritual dance in which the dancer is constantly in search of fulfillment.

 "skippedgemsroughedgesrevealedsheenuncovered", choreographed by BJ Sullivan, is an intense, physical duet performed by Foster and UNCG alumna, Lauren Tepper.

· A flirtatious and fun loving duet created by UNCG guest artist, Gerri Houlihan, will also feature performer Jonas Silver.

· A quartet choreographed by Sean Sullivan will feature Foster and three dancers in the premiere of this new work.

 The evening concludes with a large group piece choreographed by Foster set to the music of Michael Jackson.

Also featured during the performance is Magazyne, a favorite local band, who will perform live.

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Ellis Marsalis to Lead UNCG's Jazz Honors Band

University News Service

In November, the top high school jazz musicians from across the state will have the opportunity to study with Ellis Marsalis, the father of America's greatest jazz family, at The University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

A New Orleans native, Marsalis has enriched the world of jazz through his talents as a pianist, composer and music educator. He has performed with Ornette Coleman, Al Hirt and brothers Nat and Cannonball Adderley. Formerly the director of the jazz studies division at the University of New Orleans, he has appeared on the Today Show, the Tonight Show and the Arsenio Hall Show

His legacy as a music educator includes such pupils as his famous sons: Wynton (trumpet), Branford (saxophone), Delfeayo (trombone) and Jason (drums). He has also mentored trumpeters Nicholas Payton and Terence Blanchard, saxophonist Donald Harrison and pianist Harry Connick Jr.

During the Nov. 21-23 weekend, Marsalis will share his musical insight with students in the UNCG Jazz Honors Band. Nearly 100 audition tapes were submitted state-wide for a coveted spot in the 17-member ensemble. This is the fourth year that Steve Haines, director of UNCG's Miles Davis Program in Jazz Studies, has organized the band. Each year the give a public concert. Last year's guest conductor was trumpeter Byron Stripling.

The students' music education will begin on Saturday with a "jazz immersion." The musicians will attend instrumental clinics and question and answer sessions, study in listening labs and even sit in with Ellis.

"For some of the students, they have a jazz epiphany," Haines said. "They come back the next year ten times the musician they were. We want the students to feel inspired and empowered to pursue their dreams in life."

On Sunday afternoon at 1:30, the honors band will perform with the UNCG Jazz Ensemble in a public concert in the School of Music Recital Hall. The performance will open with several charts played by the Honors Band and directed by Marsalis. The UNCG Jazz Ensemble, directed by Steve Haines, will take the stage for a few numbers and then will be joined by Marsalis. The entertainment will conclude with a trio set performed by Marsalis, Haines and drummer Tom Taylor.

Tickets for this special event are \$25 for adults and \$20 for students. Call (336) 334-4849 for more information. The concert is co-sponsored by KinderMusik, Jamey Aebersold and Downbeat magazine.

The following students have been selected for the 2003 UNCG Jazz Honors Band.

of the Arts Alto - Ben Sparrow, Green Hope **High School**

Alto - Andrew Hall, Durham School

Adam Pedersen, Cary Tenor Academy

Tenor - Taylor Thompson, Page **High School** Baritone - Sally White, St. David's School

Trumpets:

Mark Osterer, North Carolina School of the Arts

Rachael Fuller, Durham School of the Arts

Andrew Cleveland, Northwest **Guilford High School**

Mike Gillespie, C.E. Jordan High School

Trombones:

J. Mark Shoun, North Carolina School of Science & Mathematics

Michael Petersen, Durham School of the Arts

Tony Mazzella, Middle Creek **High School**

Zach Young, Northwest Guilford High School

Rhythm section:

Guitar - Derek Drye, Ledford High School Piano - Chris Pattishall, C.E. Jordan **High School** Bass - Ben Barry, East Chapel Hill High School Drums - Michael D'Angelo, Foster's thesis concert program

· "Pulling the Strings Within," a solo choreographed Antoniadou, will be performed by Foster with a live pianist and violinist on stage. Set to Prokofiev's "Sonata

students are given the opportunity to learn from jazz professionals and

Saxophones:

Northwest School of the Arts

Three College Observatory to hold public stargazing sessions

University News Service

Three College Observatory will be open to the public on several nights this fall, providing an opportunity to view the solar system through a 32inch telescope.

The observatory will be open at 7 p.m. on Oct. 17 and 25; Nov. 1, 14 and 22; and Dec. 12. The nights in October and November should offer a good view of Mars, but by December the planet will be too low

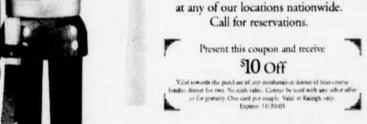
in the sky. Admission is free, but due to the size of the observatory it is necessary to make reservations.

For tickets, a map or more information, write to The University of North Carolina at Greensboro's Department of Physics and Astronomy at P.O. Box 26170, Greensboro, NC 27402-6170; or visit http://www.uncg.edu/phy/tco/.

The observatory is operated by three colleges: UNCG, North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University, and Guilford College. Its telescope is the largest in North Carolina and is able to collect 26,000 times as much light as the human eye.

It is located in Alamance County about eight miles south of Burlington, halfway between Greensboro and Chapel Hill. The drive from Greensboro takes roughly 45 minutes.

The Carolinian is hiring photographers. Call 334-5752 for into.



Know of an event The Carolinian should cover?

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Arts& Entertainment



Ryan Adams' "Rock N Roll"

as Coming next week

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2003 | PAGE 4

Bohemian Rhapsody

Flashy touring production of "RENT" misses its mark.

John Russell A&E Editor

Apparently, the touring production of a Broadway musical is never as good as the original. It has something to do with the hectic schedule. Traveling from city to city for months at a time and performing night after night tends to take its toll on the actors.

That may have been the problem last Friday night when "RENT" opened for a three night stint at Greensboro's War Memorial Auditorium.

You would think that Halloween would be the perfect opening night for this flashy, sexy, ballsy rockopera, an MTV generation update of "La Boheme." But it seems that while the kids were out trick-or-treating, the adults went to the theater. The atmosphere was more "Oklahoma!" than "Rocky Horror," and more than a few senior citizens (probably season pass holders unfamiliar with the show) left grumbling during intermission. That they lasted that long is surprising.

"RENT" is a distinctively Gen-X musical. Set in New York's East Village, the show wears its political heart on its marabou trimmed sleeve, dealing with drug addiction, the AIDS crisis and social injustice in an in your face manner.



The touring cast of "RENT," who spent a three night stint at the War Memorial Auditorium.

The plot, such as it is, revolves around a group of struggling artists and their attempts to get by honestly and authentically in the brutal wonderland of the Big Apple. Roommates Mark (Brian Gligor) and Roger (Constantine Maroulis) are squaters in their friend Benny's (Daryl C. Brown) loft. Mark's exgirlfriend, Maureen (Leslie Diamond), is a performance artist dating activist lawyer Joanne (Rebecca Jones). Collins (Marcus Paul James), Mark and Roger's former roommate, meets and falls in love with Angel (Damien DeShaun

Ryan Bares All; No One

Smith), a drag queen, while Roger is drawn to Mimi (Jaime Lee Kirchner), the junkie upstairs. Collins, Roger, Angel and Mimi are all HIV positive.

Act one takes place on a tumultuous Christmas Eve. Benny is trying to get rid of a group of homeless people camping out in the lot across the street, while everyone else protests his callousness. Act two picks up a week later, on New Year's Eve, and then speeds through the rest of the year.

From the very beginning, the show seemed to miss its mark. "RENT" is an extremely vocally demanding show and many of the actors just didn't have what it takes to inhabit the songs. Gligor, by far the weakest cast member, kicked things off with "Tune Up/Voice Mail #1," his awkward warbling setting the tone for the rest of the show. A fierce stage presence—especially during "Out Tonight," a riotous ode to New York nightlife that had the few twentysomethings in the crowd wooping is all that redeemed Kirchner's strained vocals.

It was hard to take the characters seriously, let alone care about them, when they sing conversationally. They might as well have been singing "Dude, where's my cah-har?" Their stories were so rushed they were not given time to develop much beyond caricatures. Plot twists were thrown out there and quickly glossed over with a song. All the crises of the first act were resolved early in second leaving the characters to squabble amongst themselves like bratty children until melodrama catches up to them.

The songs were mostly unremarkable, with a few exceptions. "One Song Glory" had a particularly sugary, 80's bounce to it that got lost as the song spiraled into exaggerated melodrama. "Seasons of Love," the obligatory tear-jerking ensamble, was actually moving despite its sweet predictability.

Visually, "RENT" was stunning. The set was a grungy urban ruin that sparkled with graffiti and Christmas lights. It's too bad it was shrouded in darkness for most of the show. The costumes were an eclectic mix of trendy fashion and post-apocalyptic couture. Kirchner was a vision in black lipstick, knee-high spikeheeled boots, blue vinyl and kneepads.

"RENT" is known for featuring young, unknown talent. Hopefully the members of this touring production will improve with time. If not, they may not be able to pay "next year's rent."

Cares

In the Cut should have ended up on the cutting room floor.

Ben Kaufher Staff Writer

Existentialism, while certainly artsy, does not make for captivating cinema. Jane Campion hasn't quite learned this in her newest film, "In the Cut." Campion presents a New York City that is straight out of Camus and blankets the movie in an existential apathy that envelops everything from the acting to the cinematography.

"In the Cut," based on the best selling novel by Susanna Moore, could be a psychological thriller if only it were a little more thrilling. The film follows Frannie Avery (Meg Ryan), an English teacher who is obsessed with language, jotting down each new slang phrase and subway poem that she finds. After police find a severed body part outside her apartment, she begins to fantasize about—and then have sex with—Malloy (Mark Ruffalo), the detective assigned to the case.

Besides Malloy himself, the suspects include his homophobic partner (Nick Damici), Frannie's stalker ex (Kevin Bacon), and a student who illustrates his term papers with blood (Sharrieff Pugh). The creepy cast could make anyone shiver, but none of them seem to care enough to do so.

Of course, Ryan's foray into serious work shows that she can be listless as well as bubbly. She does it well, too, but her ennui, like her charm, is infectious. When she finally clues in to the killer, no one cares. Even her sex scenes with Ruffalo seem passionless. The sex, while graphic, is mechanical; it lacks ener-



Ryan's ennui, like her charm, is infectious in "In the Cut."

gy. Her scenes with Frannie's sister (Jennifer Jason Leigh) look like a depressed slumber party. While these acting choices do fit the overall tone of the film, they would do better in a study of desensitized depression than a thriller.

Indeed, without the last twenty minutes of the film, this would be a character study. Campion seems to have tacked a murder mystery on to the end to give the whole thing some direction. Perhaps the story is so predictable that no one in the film wanted to pay it any attention.

The audience stops paying attention too as a result of Dion Beebe's cinematography. Perhaps ten minutes of film are in focus and still. The rest has a jarring handheld quality, and the focus puller must have been in the throes of an epileptic fit throughout production. The result is a complete mess that could be very beautiful if anyone could actually see it.

When in focus, the images are stunning. The opening montage shots of flowers seen behind fences and a mural of two women's heads cleaved by a "One Way" sign—is a gorgeous introduction to the trapped and insular story. The constantly obscured foreground makes the film even more claustrophobic, as do the moody pools of shadow. Hilmar Orn Hilmarsson's original music and China Forbes' rendition of "Que Sera Sera" both provide fantastic accompaniment to the images.

The film's biggest disappointment is that everyone connected to it can do better. Campion's work on "The Piano," Ryan's acting in "Courage Under Fire," and even Beebe's cinematography for "Chicago" mean that they all have the capacity to create stellar film. Nicole Kidman, who was supposed to play the lead, produced the movie. This much proven talent should have created a better film, but their efforts fail.

The overall effect of "In the Cut" is inescapable apathy. Since nothing seems to matter to the indifferent characters, the plot twists and constant suspicion are dulled. Because the cinematographer brings so much attention to the fact that this is a movie, the audience cannot get into the story. Even Meg Ryan's breasts cannot save this train wreck of a film from its own existential crisis.

"In the Cut" is playing at the Carousel Theater daily at 12:45, 2:55, 5:05, 7:20, 9:35, and 11:55.

and the winner is ...

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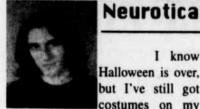
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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2003

Halloween may be over, but the fun has just begun!



I know Halloween is over, but I've still got costumes on my

John Russell mind. There is a A&E Editor reason, after all, why October 31 is

the sexiest night of the year. No other holiday, not even Valentines Day, is so rife with erotic possibilities.

Halloween is all about fantasy. It is the one night of the year when everyone is given permission to stay up late, eat lots of candy, and generally let loose. Of course, some of us are lucky and adventurous enough to be able to explore our fantasy scenarios and personae on a regular basis. But most people feel too inhibited by peers, societal taboos, or just real life in general. Halloween provides the justification and validation they need to get freaky. Some take the opportunity to become someone else, while others anticipate it as the night when they can be the most honest, extreme versions of themselves.

And let's face it: playing dress-up is hot. Why do you think strippers often don outrageous and exaggerated outfits when they perform? Sure a luscious vixen removing a miniskirt is arousing, but it's that much hotter when she slithers onstage as a sexy kitten complete with ears, a tail, and, if you're really lucky, some feline whiskers.

Part of the fun of Halloween is tramping up seemingly innocent costumes. As kids we were superheroes, witches, and ghosts. As adults (well, proto-adults) we can infuse those characters with erotic tension. Add some spike heels and a bustier to that witch costume and you've got a sultry sorceress straight out of The Witches of Eastwick. Playing with the deliciousness of evil is a Halloween staple, but divinity can be just a much fun. This year I was sexy angel, complete with wings and a white fishnet top. Even a onesie puppy costume

can be hot; just imagine what's underneath!

There's something liberating about dressing up. It's all about role-playing. Once you are in costume you can live out your fantasies. Abandon yourself to sexy archetypes like cowboys and nurses. Dress up as a cop and you are guaranteed to have people begging you to cuff them. "I've been a very bad boy officer." And it seems like everyone wants to be a pimp-and-ho couple at least once.

If fictional characters get you off, you're in luck; on Halloween they roam the streets. Do you crave the romance of Rapunzel and Prince Charming? Maybe Scarlet and Rhett are more your thing. Call me smarmy, but I know a certain slender. blond haired boy I would love to see dressed as the Vampire Lestat.

While it is safe to assume that most of us will never have sex with Donatella Versace or Jim Morrison. getting into the pants of someone dressed as them can be just as hot. Get your sweetie to dress up like that certain sexy celeb you've been lusting after and you're set for a date with a star.

The fun shouldn't stop when the Boo Bash is over. Take your costumes into the bedroom and let the trick-or-treating begin. Make up sexy scenarios for you characters to play out. You can be a damsel in distress kidnapped by a swarthy pirate, complete with the requisite bodice ripping. Find some medical props and stage a naughty doctor-patient scene. Your Eve can temp Adam with more than just an apple. Maybe Prince Charming woke Sleeping Beauty with more than just a kiss.

Halloween is just the jumping off point. If you really get into a scenario, hang onto the costumes and revisit it whenever you want. Don't be afraid to explore your fantasies. Remember, it's all about imagination. one of the most underrated erogenous zones. With a sense of humor and a little irony any Halloween costume. can become you new favorite sex toy.

Playing dress-up Iron & Wine preaches to the converted

Rae Marcus Staff Writer

Ace's Basement, located, appropriately enough, in the basement of the Coliseum Inn on High Point Road, definitely appears to be a seedy bar. It has the requisite funky lighting, red walls and the smell of years of cigarette smoke, not to mention the wine glasses that have obviously never been used. But by the time Sam Beam of Iron & Wine got onstage last Tuesday night, the whole place looked like paradise, cigarette smell and all.

Iron & Wine is a one-man outfit, sort of like Dashboard Confessional or Nine Inch Nails. Originally, Sam Beam sat in his basement in Miami. recording spare, beautiful songs with just his voice and an acoustic guitar. He mailed the demo tape to Sub Pop Records in Seattle, home to acts like Hot Hot Heat, the Postal Service, and Pretty Girls Make Graves. They agreed to sign him on one condition: not a single note could be changed. Those recordings became "Creek Drank the Cradle," a collection of songs about love, youth, and family.

By the time Beam, backed by a drummer and rhythm guitarist, took the stage at Ace's, the crowd was exhausted. There had been three opening acts and the show started late, which meant that Iron & Wine

came on at about 12:15 am. Tired of waiting, several audience members began to sit down on the floor.

Someone should have told me he wouldn't come on until tomorrow," someone quipped.

By the end of the first song almost the entire audience was sitting crosslegged on the floor, singing along with Beam. The show was a giant sing-along, led by Beam as a sort of messiah figure, the audience his devoted followers who knew every word to every song. They even cheered when he broke a guitar string or missed a note and had to start over.

Even members of the opening acts. Phosphorescent (a lyric-driven, charmingly off key geek chic band from Athens, GA), Timonium ('the emo band' that played ambient songs and wasn't afraid of feedback), and Saxon Shore (with melodies so sweet the songs felt like lullabies), emerged from backstage, sweaty and tired, to catch Beam's performance. It's always a good sign when artists still respect each other after months of being cooped up in tour buses together, and this group seemed to still like each others' music as well.

Beam played songs from "Creek Drank the Cradle" like "Bird Stealing Bread," "Lion's Mane," and the gorgeous "Upward Over the Mountains."

Part of Iron & Wine's appeal is that the songs, while about very spe-

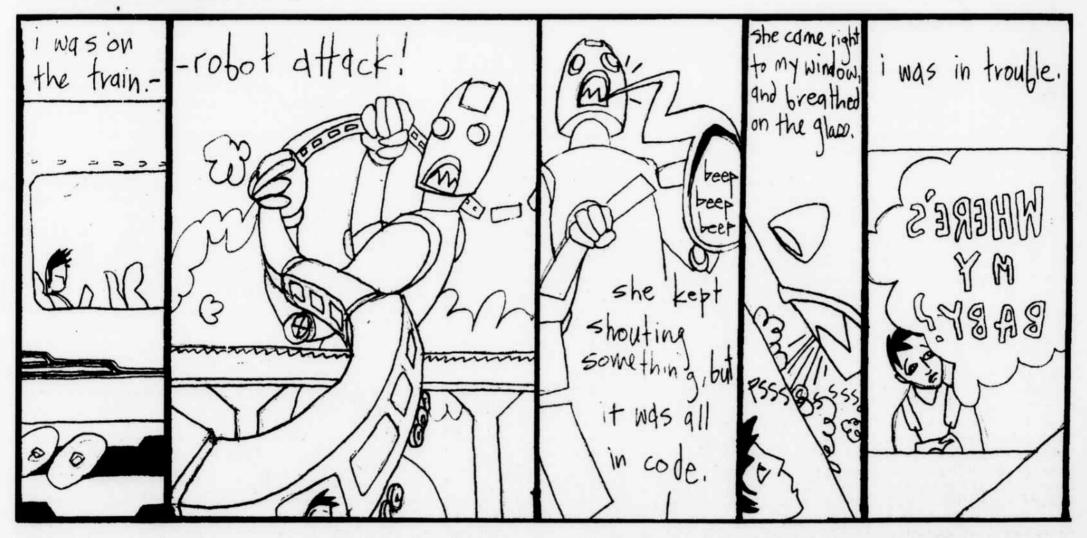
cific incidents, deal with universal themes without making them cheesy. In "Upward Over the Mountains," which is a second-person ode to a mother torn between her desire to protect her son and the knowledge that he has to make mistakes and learn on his own. Beam sang. "Mother, remember when the dog had her pups in the pantry?/ blood on the floor and fleas in their paws and you cried till the morning," he drew parallels between animals and people, a device used to perfection throughout the album.

When Iron & Wine's set finally ended around 1 a.m., Beam stuck around to meet fans. The show, sponsored by everyone's favorite indie record store, Gate City Noise, attracted a crowd that included the usual downtown hipsters as well as trendy university types, older graduates who are still in the area and even a couple of local high school kids reveling in the fact that the show was all-ages.

Beam, bearded and in a T-shirt. definitely wasn't a "rock star." His persona meshed with the audience's desire to hear good music that wasn't overpowered by image. The show was a hit with the crowd, helping to establish Ace's Basement's reputation as a venue for good music, even if you don't smoke.



Second-hand Camera by John Peery



Have an opinion on something you've seen in The Carolinian? Share it with the masses in our online forum. www.carolinianonline.com

The Carolinian

UNCG's student newspaper since 1919

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Commentaries and letters may be submitted by mail to the Opinions Editor in The Carolinian office, 236 Elliott Universtiy Center, or e-mailed the carolinian@hotmail.com. to They must be turned in by Friday at 5 p.m. for the next Thursday's edition. Submissions should be no more than 250 words and may be shortened due to space limitations. No unsigned submissions will be accepted for publication. All submissions come under possession of The Carolinian. The opinions expressed in the Opinions section of The Carolinian do not necessarily represent the official views of The Carolinian, nor the views of its staff.

OPINIONS

American Swindle

In the information age, textbook publishers cheat American college students at their own peril

Staff Editorial

When *The New York Times* ran a series of stories last week about the soaring costs of college many readers found one figure particularly startling – nearly \$1,000 a year for textbooks alone.

To students at UNCG the figure didn't come as much of a surprise – and many reported spending even more. What did surprise students on this campus and many others all over America was a *Times* report that many college texts sold in America can be had for half as much if bought from England – including international shipping.

The textbook industry has a number of explanations – but most boil down to the idea that American students can afford to pay more, so that's what they're charged. In fact, *Times* reporter Tamar Lewin reported publishers, colleges and professors have been artificially driving up prices for years by packaging superfluous study guides, CD-ROMs and supplements with each text book.

Add to that the rush to new editions every year and students find themselves shelling out hundreds of dollars more each semester than they would be if books were reasonably priced and the used books market allowed to flourish at least a year between new editions.

Though students rail against bookstores as convenient targets, stores only stock what publishers provide and professors order. Therefore professors also have a responsibility to their students – to know whether a nearly identical new edition packaged with as many as five supplements is really what their students need, or if a used book will do.

Publishers have traditionally dictated terms to both professors and stores – releasing new editions as often as they can and charging as much as students will pay in a given market. That is, until recently – when the Internet changed the market forever.

That's right - American students, a notoriously rebellious and clever bunch, haven't taken all this sitting down. Using the Internet, students have begun buying textbooks new and used from England – at market prices that are much more reasonable.

It should surprise no one that the same generation which created online music sharing to combat price gauging from the recording industry is now using the Internet to stick it to greedy American publishers.

If they're wise American textbook publishers will take a lesson from the RIAA's battle with the Napster generation. Since buying books on the international market via the Internet is perfectly legal, they really have little choice. No explanation for identical books costing less in other countries can placate American students regularly forced to dish out more than \$100 per textbook – and there's nothing to stop them from shopping the world.

Coming Next Issue

A guest columnist, new opinion poll, and more of your letters.

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Letters to the Editor

The truth about Teaching Fellows

Dear Editor,

This letter is written in response to Kevin Harvey's recent article about the UNCG School of Education. Mr. Harvey mentions that "many" students toiling in the School of Education are "indentured servants' otherwise known as Teaching Fellows. I am proud to be one of 165 North Carolina Teaching fellows on this campus. I not only disagree with his language choice but with the subsequent negative portrayal of the program.

Allow me to explain "the complexities of [the] system." Teaching fellows is a scholarship program designed to prepare and retain excellent teachers in this state. The "many" Teaching Fellows on this campus comprise a small minority of education majors and only 1.5% of the total undergraduate population.

As Teaching Fellows, we do spend a good deal of time fulfilling additional requirements for our program. However, this article failed to mention that these aspects of our "servitude" include all-expense paid educational trips, professional development conferences, networking events, valuable interactions with the community, and countless other opportunities Mr. Harvey labels "burdens."

I usually enjoy Mr. Harvey's opinions columns and his playful look at campus life and politics. However, this article and its blatant misrepresentation of Teaching Fellows and the School of Education were more hurtful than humorous.

We worked hard to earn this scholarship, we strive for collegiate excellence, and after graduation, we will do our best to teach and serve the children of North Carolina. This is the essence of NC Teaching Fellows, an organization I am honored to be part of.

Thank you,

Ruth Johnson

Homophobic Christians: the other perspective

I am a senior and a CA on campus and I am writing because I think that last week's cartoon in the opinion's section epitomizes the general sentiment on campus among non-evangelicals that all Christians are homophobes. This could not be further from the truth, and yet professors and student leaders alike judge Christianity, Christians, and the Bible based on its abuses and their lack of knowledge rather than what it actually teaches, and use all three as objects of ridicule. Gays are used to being "bashed" and hated, or completely accepted. They never really see anything else. The gospel teaches to xhibit moral conviction yet compas-

tell somebody that Jesus Christ is the only way to heaven. I would be automatically put in the "gay hater" category. Personally, I'm tired of people taking different passages of scripture out of context to show their ignorance and point fingers and make fun of Christians, as well as alleged Christians using scripture to legitimize their hatred. I'm not pointing my finger at Muslims and calling them all hostile terrorists and I would appreciate it if people stopped trying to twist scripture to try to make fun of its adherents, make themselves look good, and authenticate their own unbelief.



The best years of their lives OUT OF I miss my mother's crudeness pact. When I left she was a little g

> Joe Killian co Managing Editor sh se

A lot of my friends went out of town last weekend to dress weird and get crazy for Halloween. Can't blame them - and I've done it myself. But I spent the weekend on a much needed, much prolonged, much appreciated trip home to see my family.

It was inevitable that when I left for college I'd see my family less and less. Even with telephones and the Internet it just made sense we'd grow apart at least a bit. But I wasn't prepared, really, for how little I'd see them and how much would change between each visit.

My freshman year my mother, father and little sister still lived in Connecticut, where my dad helped run a Marine reserve station. I saw them for Thanksgiving and Christmas, but that was it. There was a rush in the independence of being on my own - even if I was living off Ramen noodles in a room the size of a large closet. We talked on the phone, we wrote...but less and less as the year went on and we settled into our lives without each other.

Four years later we all live in one state again - but five hours apart. It's not such a long trek - especially as compared to the 12- or 13-hour haul I used to make two or three times a year. But somehow that ten-hour roundtrip drive has come to seem nearly impossible. The demands of work, studying, writing and editing have gotten in the way - all these responsibilities I grew like fungus when I wasn't looking.

I don't get home now as often as I should - or even half as often as I should. Calls are infrequent, but can now last hours. The time I get with them seems more precious than ever - and when it's time to leave again it's harder than it used to be.

I miss my mother's crudeness almost as much as her warmth. When I was a kid she was the toughest woman I knew - flawed, but fearless. My dad was often gone to other countries, often fighting wars - so she raised me and my sister by herself for a long time. Like nearly all the women in my family she's funny. dramatic, artistic - and she has a quick and horrible temper. Almost all my fondest memories of her involve my coming home after an argument with some teacher or another and my mother, in a rage, calling the school or marching into the principal's office to let them know I was not to be trifled with. She's the sort of woman who is, no joking, actually most beautiful when she's angry. When I see her now it's all hugs and kisses, shared laughs and home cooking. Still - I miss having her there day to day, even the sound of her screaming.

My father is the quiet type brawny, brooding, not outwardly very affectionate. There weren't a lot of times in my childhood when we saw eye to eye - and we still don't, in a lot of ways. But I see now, with the clarity of relative maturity, that in all the ways that were important he was always there for us. Knowing what a mechanical moron I am he still asks me each time I see him, "how's the car running?" - and he's quick to climb under it with a box of complicated tools if it's making the slightest little sound. It's strange, in a way how I feel closer to him now than I ever have, though we've rarely been apart so long. Our hugs when I arrive at the house and when I leave are a little longer now - and to me, they mean more.

The biggest shock, by far, has been my sister. We're nearly seven years apart in age - so we never really fought and in a way I always felt like her third parent. I've always been as protective of her as she's been reverent of me and we have the sort of pure and natural affection that you rarely see outside that brother-sister pact. When I left she was a little girl - no training bras, no periods, and thankfully no boys coming by the house to ask if she can come to the movies. She was a bit shy then, a bit awkward, not terribly confident. Well - all that's changed while I wasn't there to watch it.

My trip home this time was for her color guard competition - her high school's flag and rifle squad. I sat in the audience with more than a thousand cheering fans as she took the field, spinning her rifle and saber into the air and catching them effortlessly. She danced naturally and joyfully and she was a vision doing it all baby fat melted away, muscle visible but not enough to hide the curves that make it clear my little girl is now a young woman. It was painfully apparent to me that all the boys in the audience noticed these things too and not in an "aw shucks, she's grown up" sort of way.

My greatest fear was that when I ran to hug her as her team came off the field she'd be embarrassed, hoping her friends wouldn't see. Instead she latched on and let me squeeze her, face beaming, showing me off to all her friends.

This last trip home stirred something in me that hadn't settled when I got out of my car five hours later and stumbled up to my dorm room. It was clear for me this time in a way it's never been before how much I'm missing every day I'm away from them - and that I need to find my way back into their lives as a permanent fixture. So now, four years after I first left them, I've made a personal vow to see my family at least once a month. If you haven't done the same already you should think about it before they get too far away.

Post a comment on this column and others at our public forums at www.carolinianonline.com sion and flexibility, but if I were to

Harvey's got economics all wrong

This is in response to the opinion article entitled "Stranger Than Fiction: Is Conservative Economics Dead?" from the 10/23/03 issue of the Carolinian.

The opinions expressed by Mr. Harvey seem to be based on memory of an introductory course for basic economic concepts he took"a few semesters ago." I doubt Economics 101 delves into all of the theory behind free markets. He throws around terms like "Reaganomics," but other than "free market" and "laborers," he does not seem to know, or at least use, any real economics terms. I find it interesting that he "quickly became fascinated by this new way of thinking," yet he apparently did not take any upper level economics courses that could better illuminate him to the Invisible Hand of the free market. Does he realize that labor markets (a type of product market) are connected to other product markets, each affecting the other? Individual consumers that includes even Mr. Harvey would ultimately determine the wage of low-skilled workers based on the products they consume in the free market. This occurs even in our own imperfect market.

The comment that "laborers don't have freedom" would lead one to believe that workers cannot choose to increase their education or move to another city/state/country. However, he then mentions illegal immigrants who come to the U.S. It looks like they had the freedom, albeit illegally, to move here. Legal immigrants are also free to move to other labor markets if they so choose.

Mr. Harvey's professor asked him to question minimum wage. Perhaps this meant to think analytically about it. There are both pros and cons to the minimum wage, and even these depend upon whose interests are being served. Mr. Harvey thanks the current administration for a jobless recovery, but does he realize that minimum-wage legislation itself will inevitably create unemployment? I suggest some more reading on Mr. Harvey's part to better understand what he considers "the most gaping hole ... of free market forces." Start with the website http://www.cato.org/pubs/pas/pa106. html which discusses minimum wage theory and evidence at length.

Finally, as a student in the UNCG Economics Department, I have to say that the blanket derogatory statement about a department and subject in which Mr. Harvey has only taken one class is not only unfounded, but it could not be further from the truth.

Melissa G. Harvey B.S. Economics, UNCG M.A. Applied Economics Program

You can submit letters to the editor four ways: 1) Email your letter to the_carolinian@hotmail.com 2) Mail it to Box B7 EUC, UNCG, Greensboro, NC 27412 3) Submit it online at www.carolinianonline.com 4) Drop it by our office at 236 Elliott University Center

Robbie Moore

OPINIONS

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2003

Saying the F Word



7

Column

Rae Marcus Staff Writer

Guest

I think it's about time that everyone here at UNCG stopped being afraid of the F word. So take a deep breath and say it with me. Feminism.

UNCG, as a former Woman's College (that is Woman with an "a", meaning a model woman, not "women" with an "e" to represent all women), has generations of proud alumnae who want to keep the university female-centered. However, to most students, the only visible thing about these alumnae efforts is our lack of a school-affiliated football team. Because of our strong female history and emphasis on "traditionally female" majors (whatever that means) like education and nursing, this campus is two-thirds female at the student level. This should

mean that the university is a place where women's issues are at the forefront and the department of Women's and Gender Studies (WGS) is fully funded, with students clamoring to get spots in their classes. Neither of these things, however, are true.

Historically, whenever a "fringe" group (like the feminist

movement, civil rights movement, or labor unions) starts to get too powerful, the people in charge get worried. Sometimes, controlling these groups means spraying them with tear gas when they protest, but the stealthiest way that The Powers That Be (by this I mean those in control of the government, media, religion, and other major social institutions) push these groups down is to pit them against themselves and each other. In the post-Reconstruction South, wealthy white owners feared what would happen if the poor white workers protested and formed unions, so they made the white workers think that their poor conditions and wages were the fault of black workers competing for the same job. By turning the working class against itself, the white owners managed to distract attention away from the real problem- their deceitful

and unfair business practices.

The same thing has happened to feminists. By depicting all feminists as angry, man-hating lesbians who refuse to shave their body hair. TPTB have made women afraid to call themselves feminists for fear of being labeled a "Feminazi" or worse. All over this campus, people hear that I am a WGS minor and immediately respond with. "I'm not a feminist, but I think that men and women should be paid the same for doing the same job," or "I'm not a feminist, but I think a woman can do anything a man can do." Here's the thing that needs to be cleared up: feminism isn't about creating a new hierarchy with women on top. It's about leveling the playing field, making things equal, and repairing the state of gender relations in this country and around the world. It's about optionsknowing that you can be a feminist and have the choice to be a career woman, or a mother, or both. I believe that men can - and should - be feminists. To quote Margaret Cho, who spoke here in September, "to deny feminism is to deny that life exists."

Sure, there are "Should the extremists feminist extremists, women who hide out until their more want to kill all the mainstream counterparts men or have their separate own manage to convince country, but I don't Middle America that think there's any movement without their cause is just? No. extremists. They should help make However, the probsure that the whole lem with extremists is that they movement is getting on tend to be the only ones getting any airtime. Should

> the extremists hide out until their more mainstream counterparts manage to convince Middle America that their cause is just? No. They should help make sure that the whole movement is getting on TV.

TV."

Hi, my name is Rae, and I'm a feminist. I have the power to vote, and I exercise it. I am heterosexual, a daddy's girl, and my favorite color is pink. I shave my legs religiously, even in the winter. I believe that the best way to refute a stereotype is to exist and be proud of your existence. I believe in equality, social justice, and open dialogue. I want to know why this university is more concerned with overdue construction projects than with catching a serial rapist who has made women at this school afraid to walk around alone at night. I want everyone to say it with me. Feminism. There. That wasn't so hard.

landscape was far less favorable. Yet



Debunking American Myths Part 1: The Free Market Myth

for one, am glad that we're using tax dollars in our unfree market to keep our airlines safe.

And there are dozens of other examples. I'll list some very quickly that we all have heard of and should realize. Technology: the Pentagon uses hundreds of millions in tax dollars every year to promote the advancement of the technology sector in order to get the best pickings from the that sector. I assure you that if the US government poured millions a year into small businesses. Wal-Mart wouldn't have taken over the Ma-and-Pa stores; though everyone hears from the rightwingers that Wal-Mart won because, in a free market, businesses sometimes die off. Not if you have lobbyists in Washington, you don't.

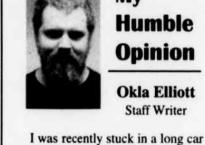
But, anyway, back to the obviously unfree market. Scientific research: US tax dollars, via research grants, pay for pharmaceutical, biological, chemical, and every

other sort of research at universities across the nation. If we were in a free market,

about interest rates. In this mythical free market that rightwingers seem to think exists, interest rates would regulate themselves, but things don't regulate themselves. We have to regulate them. That's why we had to have governmental controls on business to stop the use of child labor, to reduce the workday to eight hours, and to increase the pay to a reasonable level. Business owners didn't wake up one day and decide that child labor was immoral. They knew that from day one, but they also knew it was profitable, so they stuck with it. Without government regulation, twelve-year-olds would still be losing arms in machinery and receiving no compensation for their loss.

I am therefore debunking a twopart myth by debunking the myth of the free market. Part one is that there's any such thing as the free market. There isn't, and thank god. Part two is for the slightly more advanced rightwinger who has read a

> few books and has realized that there is no such thing as the free market, yet persists in the



them to rest once and for all.

One thing the pro-Bush feller kept saying was: "The president doesn't have much effect on the economy. That's why it's called the 'free market'." I could tell he was very proud of his witty (though entirely absurd) claim. He smiled and nodded his head, as if to say: "Take that, you lib-rul." And his not-quite-witty assertion would hold some water if there were any such thing as the "free market." In the past three years alone there have been dozens of newspaper headlines that should have let everyone know that the free market is a myth. Remember when the federal government made major aid packages for airlines after 9/11? Ten days after 9/11, Congress passed a \$15 billion aid package for airline companies. If we were in a free market, when the demand for flights went down, the supply would have dropped and many airlines would have gone bankrupt for lack of support. And rightwingers laud the idea of a free market, but even those poor, misguided children will have to admit that keeping our airlines safe to fly and keeping them in business until US citizens were a little less skittish about flying was a good thing. US military personnel-paid for by tax dollars just like the \$15 billion in aid was tax dollars-offers enhanced free security for airports. If we lived in a free market, airports would have to pay for all of their own security. I,

My Humble Opinion

Okla Elliott Staff Writer

ride with a rightwing, pro-big-business, pro-war, pro-Bush feller, who-aside from the aforementioned qualities-was an okay guy. But I was struck by certain phrases that came out of his mouth, and I was even more struck by how frequently I'd heard those exact words said with the same tone throughout my life. After an hour or so of hearing his claims, I was made more than usually aware of how many people have bought into certain American myths. I've therefore decided to do a threepart series to take a look some of these myths and do my best to lay

tragedy for the entire nation, and this should not be minimized. But perspective is needed: while 300 Americans have died in the last six months in Iraq, the Department of Transportation indicates that 20,000 have died on the highways right here in the U.S.A. Even if the media's "if it bleeds, it leads" strategy persists, all of us should realize that the bigger picture in Iraq is being obscured there even as life in Greensboro often is here on the local evening news.

Apparently this message is getting out to students. According to a CNN/USA Today/Gallup poll conducted last week, those between the ages of 19 to 29 are more likely to support the president and see events in Iraq positively than the anti-war

corporations would have to pay for that research (and sometimes they do offer a portion of the funding so as to get a reduced deal later when they buy the findings; but the professors and research assistants and much of the equipment and buildings are pur-

chased with tax dollars, thus saving corporations millions). Again, Ilike any sane person-fully support this state of affairs. It helps everyone out along the way. More students get to learn more; professors get to do more research; more cancer drugs are discovered (among other discoveries); and so on. But, I'm a "crazy librul" who likes it when more people live fuller, more fruitful lives.

Let's look at another activity that should keep everyone fully aware of how unfree our market is and must be to have any sort of functional society: interest rates. These are set by people who decide when they can be higher or lower. Mr. Greenspan in Washington makes decisions that affect the whole nation when talking

generation of yesteryear. No surprise there. The naysayers, who wrongly feel that they have the right to speak for the youth of all generations, forget that idealistic students have little interest in messages of pessimism and despair. In years past, Marxists and other leftists could point to a utopia that enchanted youth with the possibility of perfect social equality and a peaceful communal existence. But now that the Soviet Union has fallen, the possibility of a utopia on earth has been swept away - along with the optimism of the adherents of that godless ideology. To the extent that the remnants of this intellectual disease carry on in liberals today, more and more young people will choose Right over Left.

billion aid package for airline companies. If we were in a free market, when the demand for flights went down, the supply would have dropped and many airlines would have gone bankrupt for lack of support."

"Ten days after 9/11,

Congress passed a \$15

belief that there should be. Cancer patients, their families, airline workers, computer programmers, chemical researchers, stock holders in airlines, and anyone who dislikes the idea of another 9/11 happening, among many other groupings in our cul-

ture, are very happy not to live in a free market. Our society is a mixed society, mostly capitalism mixed with some useful social programs. We have many social programs and tax-funded sectors which benefit us all, and while that sounds like socialism to many (because it is), we need to get rid of this near-religious belief in the free market and embrace the mixed economic system we've had and prospered under for so long.

Agree? Disagree? Send a letter to the editor at carolinianonline.com

President Bush should stay the course in Iraq not only because Iraqis will be the safer for it, but also because doing so will place America on the right side of history. In a postmodern world where right and wrong are considered outdated concepts, it is the great opportunity of the United States to go beyond recognizing evil and showing that we will spend our money and lives wiping it away from the face of the earth. Replacing that evil with something better is not easy but it is a challenge that is not above the character or beyond the patience of our nation.

Jason Crawford Staff Writer

Imagine the scene: the air is thick with tension as the president's national security advisors convene. The presidential campaign is just starting up and new polls suggest that the president's foreign policy is not popular - only 31% approve. Some are quiet as they contemplate which line will best summarize their position and would most likely stick in the mind of the president, who has not yet arrived. The usual suspects are expected to lock horns, but tempers this time are expected to flare even more than usual. Every person rises as the president enters the room, but the one in this scene answers to the name of Reagan, not Bush. The advisors break the bad news and some try suggesting again that he should relax his policy towards the Soviet Union. But after all have spoken President Reagan's response shocks everyone as he goes straight to the subject everyone is really thinking about: he would rather lose in 1984 than ease his tough stance against the Soviets.

The players were different, the threat changed, and the political

with steadfastness, Bush can succeed Shooting in Iraq just as Reagan went on to an unlikely triumph over communism almost twenty years ago. But also like Reagan, he can press forward

and risk losing re-election if things do not go well. Perhaps what has changed least is the tune of the president's opponents: they are still those that would weaken the United States and make for us a far more dangerous world. They are just as willing to accommodate terrorism as they were Soviet aggression years ago.

> Many in the media make this more difficult by doggedly portraying a negative version of events in Iraq despite complaints. Truly bad things have happened, but the recent disappearance of the summer power shortages and the stabilization of Shiite-dominated areas are not considered newsworthy. The fact that most of the attacks on our troops have been occurring in the small Sunni-Muslim region of Iraq that Saddam Hussein came from also seems to go unsaid. Polls of Iraqis continue to show that the vast majority wants the U.S. to stay. But the car bomb speaks louder than a democratic majority, and this fact is not lost on a liberal correspondent at NPR.

> Each life that is lost in Iraq is a tragedy for the family of each soldier and police officer (there are other Iraqis that are dying too). It is also a



Rebuilding Iraq is

America's opportunity

College Chaos



Every now and then things just work out exactly how you expect—

and other times, it

all falls apart like a Kelly Snow drunken game of Sports Editor Jenga. After

Saturday night, the BCS is now the biggest Jenga game ever to have spilled on any fraternity house's beer soaked floor.

It started out harmlessly enough. The #1 ranked Sooners seemingly cut down every tree in Oklahoma, built a gigantic woodshed, and took Okla. State deep behind it 52-9.

Then the fit hit the shan.

Florida toasted and roasted their buddy Georgia and their Sugar Bowl aspirations once again in the "World's Largest Outdoor Cocktail Party" in Jacksonville, Fla. Great job Dawgs. You fire a coach because he can't beat the Gators and what happens-Florida does you again for the second straight year, this time with a freshman QB. The SEC East's representative in the conference championship game looks like it may have to be chosen by the athletic directors from Vandy, South Carolina, and Kentucky. Once again, great job Dawgs for making football a popularity contest.

How 'bout them 'Canes? Their invitation to the Sugar Bowl was all but in the mailbox waiting for them in Coral Gables and their last major obstacle Va. Tech was humbled a week before by West 'Freakin' Va. There was no way the Hokies could upset the unbeatable 'Canes. The Gobblers from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University didn't just beat Miami, they destroyed them 31-7 and it wasn't even that close. The 'Canes were punked by a team that knew their Sugar Bowl dreams were squandered a week before, but just wanted to keep their ACC err...Big East rival out of the title game.

Well kids, it's official. There's a number one, about five number twos, and only one title game. Fantastic.

As of right now, USC appears to have the inside track in taking a good ol' country tail-rippin' by the Sooners in Nawlins, but what makes them more deserving than the other oneloss teams. Nothing. The men of Troy lost before the men of South Beach. or the men of the Bayou so they inherit that #2 spot. There are six teams right now screaming "why not us?", but what about the other undefeated team-TCU. The Horned Frogs are far from a prince in disguise for the BCS, in fact they are more like that ugly kid at the dance sitting in the corner by himself. TCU is ranked #9 in the current BCS standings and unless they can, pardon the pun. leapfrog a few teams they'll be left out of the BCS bowls all together and spending their holiday season in beautiful but chilly Memphis instead of Miami,



Coming Next Issue

More Spartan sports news and features

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2003 | PAGE 8

SoCon Women's Tourney Preview

Sam Clark Staff Writer

The top eight Southern Conference teams in the regular season will descend on Greensboro this week and do battle in the 2003 SoCon Women's Championship. The tournament runs from Nov. 6-9 and is a single elimination affair, with an automatic bid into the NCAA Tournament waiting for the winner.



Western Carolina

Reigning champion Furman enters the tournament as the number-one seed boasting a nearly exemplary record in conference play this year. The Lady Paladins are currently unbeaten in 12 games and have not lost to conference opposition in 24 games. The College of Charleston was the only conference opposition who did not succumb to the number one seed, escaping with a 0-0 draw.

Since Coach Brian Lee (115-66-8) took charge of the team in 1994 Furman has dominated the conference with five SoCon Regular Season titles (95, 99, 00, 01, 02) and two SoCon Championships (99, 02).

Captain Emily Turgeon has been present in the majority of Furman's recent successes and has continued her rich vein of scoring form this year. The senior from Raleigh has complied 28 points and has been responsible for five game-winning goals.

Last year's SoCon tournament MVP Andre'a Morrison will join Turgeon in Furman's defense of the title. The sophomore got off to a slow start this season but has exploded in recent times, scoring a whopping seven goals in her last three games. This form, which included a hat trick against Western Carolina, led her to last weeks Southern Conference Player of the Week award (Oct. 28). The reigning champions will play number eight seed Western Carolina in what could prove to be an extremely one sided affair. The game will open the tournament and is scheduled for 11 a.m. on Thurs. Nov. 6. In the regular season WCU got an absolute trouncing 6-1 from the Paladins but since this demolition has rounded the season off with three our of four wins. The Catamounts have an overall record of 7-10-2 and a 4-7-0 showing in the conference which included a 5-0 thrashing of The Citadel in the penultimate game of their season.



ceding only 25 goals with four progress into the final four. shutouts.



The second game of the tournament will pit number four seed Chattanooga against instate rival East Tennessee State at 1.30pm. In the regular season ETSU went down in a torrid double overtime match when Chattanooga's Elfa Erlingsdottir headed home to steal the game 1-0.

Not only was their encounter close but the two teams tied in the regular season standings. Neither side has ever won a Southern Conference tournament match so the winner will reach the semi finals for the first time in its history.



Appalachian State

> The second session of matches on Thursday starts at 5pm and sees College of Charleston battling Appalachian State.

Charleston

College of Charleston was the only team in the conference to get anything out of Furman and therefore must be considered a serious threat for the crown. The Cougars have an overall record of 11-6-2 and are undefeated in their last five conference games and has added five more since, to register eight for the season.



Wofford

UNCG

The host will finally get under way at 7pm on Thursday evening when they take on number seven seed Georgia Southern.

The UNCG Spartans have had a very strong finish to their year that looked to be spinning out of control during mid season. The Spartans have clinched the second seed position and have a healthy 8-2-0 record in the conference with losses against Furman and Chattanooga.

Jennifer Stillman has been a rock in goal, only conceding five goals in conference play. Stillman's performances led to her picking up the SoCon player of the week for the week of Oct. 21.

While Stillman has produced a productive defensive foundation, her teammates Rakel Logadottir and Amy Carnell have been responsible for the firepower up front. Sophomore Carnell has scored a team leading nine goals while Logadottir has tallied six goals with an impressive addition of nine assists.

Both of these attacking players for the host will have to be in good form to pierce the fierce rearguard that Wofford has built its team around. Freshmen goalkeeper Anne Sommers has only conceded 16 goals in 15 starts and has an amazing eight shutouts.

The Lady Terriers have had a winning 5-4-2 record in the conference but have only scored 19 goals all season. Coach Amy Kiah has seen impressive victories against Elon, Western Carolina and the Citadel but knows it's going to be tough to reach the semi finals against the Spartans who triumphed 1-0 when the two teams met in conference play earlier in the season.



Pasadena. Tempe, or New Orleans. No big deal, it's only about a \$6 million difference in payout.

Who should get the chance to play OU? The answer is mind-boggling in its simplicity. All of them.

At the beginning of the semester I proposed a plan to actually have a national championship playoff and once again I've proved my genius to the world-or at the least the UNCG community. How much fun would it be to watch all this great football in Oct. and Nov. knowing that the very best teams in America will get a shot to fight it out with each other on the field instead of in a computer or in the polls.

For me, I figure I have about three more good weeks of football to go before the conference championship games and the Army-Navy thriller. After that I figure I'll watch N.C. State and Tennessee play in their bowl games but other than that, there is not one postseason game I give a damn about-including the BCS title game. Why? Because by the time Jan. 4 comes around both teams will be so rusty that they will need an economy size bottle of WD-40 to play a decent game, and still no one will know whom the best team in the country is. A dumb system almost ruins a great

A dumb system almost ruins a grea game for me. Almost The leading point scorer for WCU is freshmen Stephanie Svoboda who has scored six goals and added one assist. Senior goalkeeper Tina Weaver has also been a standout this season, starting 19 games while conLeading the Lady Moc's is league leading scorer, sophomore Dianna Jallo, with 15 goals in her 17 games. Jallo recently scored a hat trick against Elon which was her fourth multi-goal game of the season. Swedish sophomore Amelia Fogelberg has provided the ammunition for Jallo with six assists from midfield.

Their opponents East Tennessee have a 7-4-0 record in the conference and are coached by UNCG graduate Heater Henson (1994) who has set numerous school records including most conference wins in 2002.

Henson has had influential sophomore Erin Ashton at her disposal this year. She has contributed nine goals and seven assists for the Bucs and featured heavily in ETSU's 3-1 victory against Elon scoring a goal and adding an assist. Ashton will have to show similar form if her team will chee Builles.

Junior Claire Wigfall inspired the Cougars to a 2-1 victory against conference rival Western Carolina last time out when she scored her third and fourth goals of the season. Wigfall is joined in attack by sophomore Kristin Rhyne who has scored eight goals and had five assists since she transferred from Ohio State.

Appalachian State is coached by ex-Nigerian international Ben Popoola who led the team to its first winning season in 2001. The Mountaineers proudly sit at a school record of 11-4-3 this time out and are the number six seed for the tournament.

Defender Dawn Marie-Alfred has been leading the back line for Appalachian this year and has ventured forward to score two gamewinning goals this season. One of these came in the 1-0 win over Georgia Southern with a little over a minute to play.

Junior goalkeeper Breland Meany became the school's all-time shutout leader against Birmingham Southern "I think the level in the conference has risen tremendously in the past year. I don't think there will be one team to beat this year. I think every game is going to be a battle, and we are looking forward to it," said Kiah

The semi finals of the tournament will be played on Friday with the action starting at 5pm. The two successful teams will then have a day off Saturday to prepare for the Championship game at 1pm on Sunday afternoon.

Spartan Sports Roundup

Jeni Hodges Staff Writer

Women's Volleyball team gets burnt by Liberty's Lady Flames

UNCG's volleyball team dropped three straight games to fall to Liberty Thursday night (10/30) at the Vines Center in Lynchburg, VA.. With the efforts of Lauren Richards the Spartans kept up with the Lady Flames in the beginning of the first match. Liberty transformed the first game into one of blocking. This allowed the Lady Flames to win the first game 30-21. Liberty started game two with a bang. Despite the offensive efforts of Lori Collins, the

Flames kept a tight hold to their lead; allowing them to win game two 30-19. The last game of the match was quite similar to the first two. The Spartans got busy early with a tie of 9-9, but the Lady Flames fought hard and achieved their winning points late in the game. Liberty won game three 30-21 and the match 3-0. Collins and Richards completed the game with a team best of six kills. Kim Dayton recorded nine digs and finishing with a match high of 23 assists was Stephanie Elbe. After the disappointing defeat the Spartans' record stands 7-19 for the season and 3-10 for the SoCon.

Spartans Finish in the top-10 at the Southern Conference Cross Country Championship.

Davidson, N.C. was the site of the SoCon Cross Country championship Saturday. UNCG finished fifth overall for the women's cross country team and seventh overall for the men.

Heidi Sloop finished third with an impressive time of 19:09.89. This incredible performance by Sloop allowed her to take home her second consecutive All-SoCon award. Also receiving the all-conference honors was Eleanor Wilson. She recorded a time of 19:09.81 putting her in ninth place for the match. Wilson and Sloop made Spartan history by becoming the first to win the All Southern Conference award at the same meet. Finishing 16th with a time of 19:53.02, Katie Olham became another Spartan in the top-20. Jess Weber and Kristin Irwin completed UNC-G's top five with their recorded times of 20:40.78 and 20:44.00. Takeesha Carter, Samantha Geis, and Naomi D'Amours also finished for UNC-G.

Joe Jacobs was the top competitor for the men's team. He recorded a time of 27:02.63, but not far behind was C.R. Thomas finishing 17th with a time of 27:03.88. Finishing in the top-30 was Chad Carpenter with a time of 27:35.36 and Nicolas Vaccaro with a time of 27:35.61. Also finishing for the Spartans were, Brian Konczewski, Thomas Wilkey, David Fulp, and Tim Goldsack.

SPORTS

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2003

Spartans cruise by Eagles and Wildcats to clinch second place

Spartan women roll in regular season finales to gear up for SoCon tournament.

Aaron Snyder Staff Writer

The message for the Spartans going into Friday's game against Georgia Southern was simple: Win tonight, and secure the second seed in the Southern Conference tournament. They did just that with a dominant 5-0 home rout against the Eagles.

UNCG had extra incentive other than to secure the second seed. They also wanted to make sure that seniors Cheryl Stewart, Tiffany Renard, and fourth-year junior Tracy Withrow would leave the UNCG Soccer Stadium victorious in their last regular season home game.

"Every year since I have been here Senior Night is special" coach Eddie Radwanski said. "The girls want to come out and play well because they want to end senior night with a victory... it just speaks volumes for the chemistry that we have."

UNCG pressured the over matched Eagles from the opening minute of

the game, when red-shirt freshman Devin Beachum and senior Cheryl Stewart had great opportunities that were turned away by Georgia Southern goalie Kari Gast.

The Spartans finally got onto the board in the 13th minute, as sophomore Amy Carnell took a pass from freshman defender Shannon



Amy Carnell, Sophomore

Donovan and beat a defenseless Gast for her eighth goal of the year.

Two minutes later, freshman Carolyn Lindsay shot a rocket off of an assist by Beachum for the second goal of the game.

"We just wanted to go out there and come out strong," Carnell said. "It just helped us to get excited, and to try and score some more goals."

Carnell would also score the last goal of the game, in the 90th minute on an altruistic play by junior Jamie Ableman. The midfielder, who has not scored a goal this year, was on a break away down the right sideline. When Gast came off of her line to challenge the play, Ableman could have easily taken the shot herself. Instead, the unselfish captain instinctively crossed the ball to a wide-open Carnell in the middle of the field for the easy goal.

"Sure, I would have liked to score the goal, because I haven't scored yet this year," Ableman said. "But Amy had a better angle on the goal, so I passed it to her."

The Spartans finished off their season on Sunday afternoon by defeating conference rival Davidson 3-1.

Dacia Beachum, Ableman, and Rakel Logadottir scored the goals for UNCG. However, freshmen defenders Meredith Paisley and Shannon Donovan missed the game, and their availability for the conference tournament is still unknown. UNCG opens tournament play against

Wofford on Thurs. night at 7:30 p.m.

The Spartans survived the beginning part of the season, when many of their players were injured. Now that most of the roster is healthy again, UNCG is playing their best soccer of the season at the most important time of the season.

"It is kind of neat to have everybody back," Radwanski said. "We kind of done it reverse, so here we are at the end of the season and we are very healthy. It helps for us because it gives us a lot of depth and a lot of versatility and we are going to need that as we proceed into the conference tournament."

Despite having a high seed, and playing well in the conference, the Spartans also know that in the Southern Conference tournament, anything can happen. UNCG is also eager to attempt to avenge their only two conference losses this season, at the hands of Furman and Chattanooga.

"We definitely needed to win it because having the second seed will



PHOTO COURTESY SPORTS INFO Jennifer Stillman, Sophomore

help us a lot," Ableman said. "Everyone in our conference at this point is strong... I hope that we play Chattanooga or Furman; I hope that we have the chance to play either one of those teams because they beat us. And revenge is always sweet."

A Cross Country Experience

Sloop and Wilson finish as All-SoCon runners.

Kelly Snow Sports Editor

Let me get the business out of the way. The UNCG cross-country team came hard this weekend at Davidson in the Southern Conference crosscountry championship meet, but none brought it better than junior Heidi Sloop. Sloop's third place finish accompanied with Eleanor Wilson's

weeks ago I was trying to figure out what we were going to do with some of the non-revenue sports, especially cross-country. I knew with the teams' success this season, I couldn't ignore them anymore.

There have been records falling all season long for both the men and the women. At a recent meet in Greenville, Thomas broke the school record in the 8K that was set just two weeks earlier by Jacobs. At that same meet, the women's record fell at the hands of Wilson earning her SoCon runner of the week honors.

Ok, I figured with all these great

to see the start of the women's 5K race. When the gun went off the racers of course took off up the grassy incline and disappeared into the woods. Once the runners were out of sight, at least 200 people headed after them on the course, in all different directions. I figured they knew what they were doing so I followed a pack of them into the woods. There were



people just hanging out on the course, cheering as hard as they could for their particular runner or team. Hell, there were even guys with their chest painted. I was wearing some bulky jeans and a hot sweatshirt and I just couldn't keep up. I got lost.

By some stroke of luck as I was I stumbling my way through the brush, I found UNCG assistant coach Linh Nguyen. I basically stayed in his hip pocket for a while, ran the course, and saw Heidi make her famous kick that earned her third-place result.

After the race, two images stayed with me.

understood.

The impression I have of this sport is fairly complex. I think they're all looney tunes. What would possess someone to do this to his body? I understand that I'm a simple guy, but if I'm going to run for five or eight kilometers I do not want to finish in the same place that I start from. The crazy thing is that they do it almost all year long. Dachelet told me that his runners might take a couple of weeks off combined in an average year if they're lucky.

Although I find them a little wacky, I have to respect anyone that can do

ninth place performance helped to pace the women's team to a fifth place overall result.

"It was a pretty big pack, it narrowed down pretty quickly and I just tried to stay in the back of the front pack. We were in fourth or fifth the whole time until about the two mile and I felt good so I pushed it," Sloop said. "The finish was awesome for me. I'm not a kicker. I just got to top of the hill and I saw the two girls in front of me and I just kicked it, I was able to pass them."

"It was a great race for her-strategically, tactically that was a race of a career for her," said head coach Dan Dachelet."She's talented but she ran out of her socks that day."

The men behind top-20 runs by Joe Jacobs and C.R. Thomas finished seventh in the men's meet.

Ok, congrats, Heidi, Eleanor, and the rest, but now I'm going to tell you the story behind the story.

During our staff meeting in The Carolinian newsroom a couple of results, they would make a bunch of noise at the conference championship in Davidson and since it was just a quick trip up the road I had to at least check it out.

Before I made the roadie to Davidson I did a little research on the sport of cross-country. At the meets the top-five times make up the cumulative team score. So if a team has a runner than wins the race by over a minute, but the rest of the team brings up the rear, that team will lose miserably.

What I expected at the meet was that there would be a lot of (to borrow a phrase coined by Dachelet) running nerds and maybe a few parents cheering their kids on from seats far from the wood trails.

I couldn't have been more wrong. Between the teams, coaches, helpers, family, friends, and fans there had to be at least a thousand people running around. They were running everywhere but mostly in the woods.

I arrived late, as usual, just in time

PHOTO COURTESY SPORTS INFO Heidi Sloop, Junior

After Linh and I found our way out of the woods, we found Heidi-better yet Heidi found Linh. She basically tackled him and described in blowby-blow detail about her kick with a smile the size of Texas. She goofed around with her teammates and hugged everyone wearing a Spartan she could find.

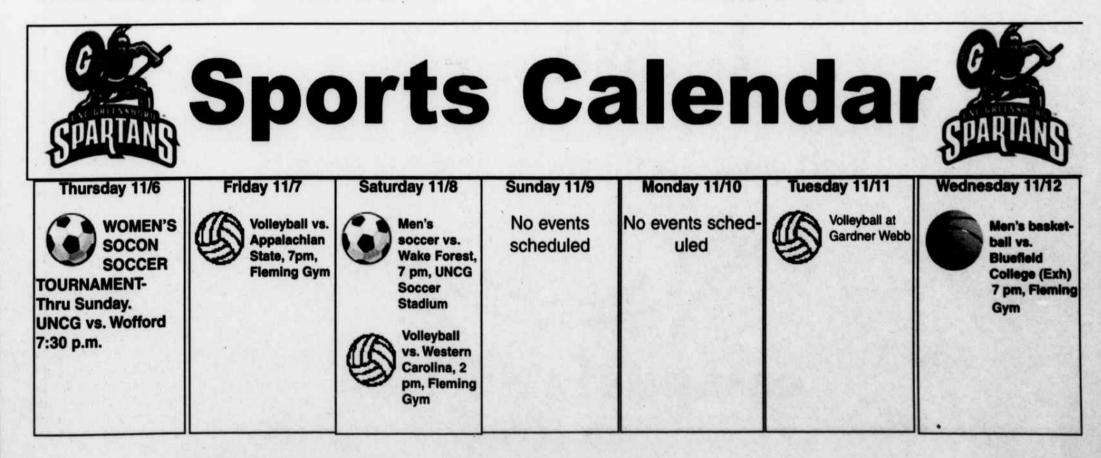
"She called it at the beginning of the race. When we said that we'd be out there on the course and we wouldn't be able to see her finish she said 'well that's too bad because you're going to miss the best kick ever'," said Dachelet.

I also saw a member of the Spartan squad, I have no idea who, cryingeither from the pain of running a 5K, disappointment of not running a particularly successful race, or both. After the men's race, there were more than a few of the guys coughing, gagging, and even throwing up. I thought it was a little odd that an ambulance was on-sight for a cross-country meet but after seeing people dropping, I something that I know for a fact I can't do or in the case of cross-country running, want to do. Maybe when I was younger I would have enjoyed this, but I just don't know.

I didn't get the attraction of the sport until I met with Dachelet and he explained it.

"I think every runner asks 'why am I putting my body through this?', but there's just something about that goal and pushing your body to the limit," Dachelet said. "I think you can learn a lot about life in cross country, there are a lot of parallels to life-working together, meeting with difficulties, dealing with inter-squad dynamics."

I may not get the appeal of running cross-country, but I did find out something Saturday at Davidsonthese men and women are fierce competitors with huge hearts and even bigger lung capacities.



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