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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2004

SGA race grows more complicated

Ousted vice president Demonte' Pridgen says the Office of Student Life is resisting his candidacy; delegate at large Ben Byrd says 'computer glitch' is fixed and he's in the race

Kathryn Kennedy
Staff Writer

The student government election proceedings are in turmoil once more. At Tuesday's SGA meeting new presidential candidates were announced and previously announced candidates were cut. Dissension exists between those who think the election is running smoothly and those who consider it a mess.

Current SGA president Dara Edelman said that the election is going well due to the election process changes enacted at the beginning of the semester.

"There was some confusion because we originally thought that there would be ticket voting," Edelman said. "But that shouldn't really mess

anyone up. Campaigning doesn't begin until March first."

Edelman also said that the race will be both close and exciting until the end.

"We've got some really strong candidates running for president," she said. "It should be a tight race."

On the other side of the debate is Demonte' Pridgen, who appeared on the nominee list last week but at Tuesday's meeting was told he will not be on the ballot for president. Much of this has to do with the fact that he failed to sign a waiver, releasing his GPA to the election committee. Pridgen was ousted as vice president of SGA last semester because his GPA was too low.

"I am in the race now," Pridgen

said Tuesday. "When they read the list of eligible candidates tonight, I wasn't on it. But I knew that they were trying to use my GPA to disqualify me. But according to our constitution, the SGA president has to have a 2.5 GPA, but you don't have to have that to run."

Pridgen said he thinks the resistance to his presidency comes from the Office of Student Life, who would rather see a president less willing to stand up for students.

"I think in some way, the OSL is intimidated by me," Pridgen said. "I think if they have the opportunity, they'll try to stop me from running."

According to Pridgen, current SGA president Edelman is the ideal candidate of the administration - not

the students.

"In my opinion Dara's image is pleasing to [the administration], and they think she'll be on their side as opposed to standing up for students."

Pridgen said his semester as SGA vice president this year speaks for itself - and that though Edelman was president it was he and the SGA executive board who were behind getting campus-wide Town Meetings started and finding the money to fix UNCG's broken fountain just off the Quad.

"I wouldn't be in this race if I didn't feel I could really serve the students," Pridgen said. "It's their interests that come first for me."

Continued on page 2

GOING ELSEWHERE



TREY STANDISH / THE CAROLINIAN
Josh Fox, co-founder of the artists' collaborative Elsewhere on Elm St., which hosted a work-study program last week.

Young artistic group pushes boundaries

Eren Tataragasi
Staff Writer

The walls of the Elsewhere arts collaborative are lined with thousands of books, toys and clothes dating back to 1939. It seems messy, but everything is in its place, until someone needs it for their art piece. "It's a mix of spontaneity and planned action," says George Scheer, 23, one of the project's founders.

Scheer, a recent University of Pennsylvania graduate, and his high school friend Josh Fox have established a little gallery in downtown Greensboro on Elm St. called Elsewhere to give the community "an indoor playground," as they call it.

The idea is to get people involved

in spatial movement and to view how people are affected by their relationships with people and with the things around them, Scheer and Fox say.

The building that houses Elsewhere opened in the 1939 as a furniture store; over time it was an army surplus store during WWII and eventually it became a clothing outlet. The store was owned by Scheer's grandmother for years and when the family didn't know what to do with the space after his grandmother died in 1997, Scheer and a team of volunteers stepped in.

They have created an art space out of thousands of pieces of junk. The

Continued on page 3

Neo-Black Society seeks new lounge

The campus minority group lost their lounge when the EUC was renovated; they say they want it back

Kathryn Kennedy
Staff Writer

The \$23 million renovation of the Elliot University Center, finished in Jan. 2003, added many refurbished conference rooms, a convenient career services center, a student commons including a food court, a multi-cultural room, and many other resources to the campus. However, the NEO-Black Society, UNCG's minority organization founded in 1968, says their group's needs were overlooked when the former NBS lounge found in the old EUC failed to appear in the updated building.

According to Veronica Sturdivant, NBS president, the lounge's history can be traced back to 1971. The room was given to the society during integration as a haven for African-American students. NBS says it needs to remain a staple of both the EUC and the UNCG campus.

"It is not only African American history, but it is the history of this university as well," the NBS executive board said. "Others on this campus need to know the impact that the Neo-Black Society has had at this school."

Many NBS members fondly recall the murals past students painted on the walls.

"Those who didn't see the lounge can never recreate the experience of walking into that room," Sturdivant said. "On every wall it was just so

beautiful. It's a shame that people will never be able to see it. You can put them in a picture, but it'll never have the same effect as walking in among them. It took you back to the sixties."

The murals were applied directly to the cinder-block walls, which were torn down during the renovation, therefore making restoration impossible. However, Dr. Carol Disque of student affairs says the art has not been lost completely.

"They had a professional photographer come in and take careful photos of all the murals so we could have those and we could reproduce posters or life-sized or little versions or whatever we wanted to do in the future," Dr. Disque said. "All that stuff is still on film somewhere and nothing has been recreated yet. That would be a good project to do."

The NBS executive board also says that this lounge would add a unique cultural element to the campus, and should be reinstated.

"Everything on this campus is very similar," said NBS executive board member Monica Sturdivant. "This lounge added diversity."

The Neo-Black society proposed creating a new lounge to the SGA meeting on Feb. 24. They are circulating a petition and say they hope to convince the OSL to reinstate the lounge.

Web community gets students in touch

Megan Karbley
Staff Writer

Want to sell your textbooks, share pictures, find out where parties are and which professors are the most difficult? Kyle Regan, web master of UNCG's new online community, partyuncg.com, wants you to log on to his free site.

Partyuncg.com, like sites at other schools, is UNCG's own little corner of the Web. In online posts users say they like having their own place to talk about issues relevant to college life, like selling used textbooks or finding good drink specials. Partyuncg.com is not officially affiliated with the university.

The site invites students and organizations to add dates to the online calendar and advertise free of

charge. Regan said, "It's totally free and you don't have to worry about getting junk mass emails."

Partyuncg is modeled after WolfWeb, a similar site at NC State with over 13,000 users. Partyuncg currently has about 400 users, a figure Regan hopes to grow.

To gain full access, users just create a username and password. Users are then free to view picture galleries and browse message boards.

When messages are posted, whether they are about school, parties, class or cars, all users are classified as "new" or "veteran."

Regan said the only thing users have to be cautious about when using the site is not "recklessly posting personal things. Use anonymity to your advantage."

2004 CAROLINA FILM FESTIVAL



Visitors to the 2004 Carolina Film Festival, which was hosted by UNCG, filter out of the Carolina Theater last weekend.

WHITNEY SHEPTE / THE CAROLINIAN

The Weekend Calendar

February 26-28, 2004

-26-

8:00 p.m. UNCG NAACP Presents: "The Movement" in honor of Black History Month. Cone Ballroom, EUC. Admission: Free.

8:00 p.m. Reading: Eleanor Wilner. Distinguished Visiting Writers Series. Book signing and reception. Faculty Center, College Avenue. Free. MFA Writing Program: (336) 334-5459, <http://www.uncg.edu/eng/mfa>.

8:30 p.m. Show: The Necessary, Stickboy (cd release), Chandler. Ace's Basement, 2428 High Point Rd., Greensboro. Cost: \$8/\$10 if under 21. Info: 292-1832 Ext. 222 Admission: \$5/\$6 if under 21.

-27-

9:00 p.m. Show: Walrus. The Blind Tiger, 2115 Walker Avenue, Greensboro. 21 and up only. Info: 272-9888.

8:00 p.m. Theatre: "Jesus Christ Superstar." Taylor Theatre, Tate Street. \$15 Adults, \$12 Students/Seniors, \$9 Groups of 10 or more, \$6 UNCG Students. UNCG Box Office: (336) 334-4849. Department of Theatre: <http://www.uncg.edu/the>.

-28-

7:00 p.m. "Marx in Soho" Randall Jarrell Lecture Hall, UNCG Library. UNCG Students: \$8; Other: \$10 Info: www.marxinsoho.com

9:00 p.m. Show: BLOODJINN, The Manhattan Project, Each Passing Moment, After Letting Go. Ace's Basement, 2428 High Point Rd., Greensboro. This show will be filmed and released nationally on DVD. www.bloodjinn.com; www.themanhattanproject.com;

www.eachpassingmoment.com Admission: \$6 ALL AGES.

Corrections

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Elections from page 1

Ben Byrd, currently a delegate at large, has found himself in the reverse scenario. Though he had nominated himself for SGA president and seen three other students do the same, Byrd's name was not called along with the other nominees last week. This Tuesday however, results shifted in his favor.

"There was apparently a glitch in the computer system," Byrd said. "I managed to work it out with committee and I'm eligible according to my grades."

Overall, Byrd said he is satisfied that the change was made and looks forward to running for president against what he says are great candidates.

"Next year's board, as far as president goes, should be great no matter who wins."

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paper.

Tiny college has big idea: Cut tuition

By Robert Becker
Chicago Tribune
(KRT)

EUREKA, Ill. - With higher-education costs around the country increasing at a double-digit gallop, tiny Eureka College recently took an unconventional step: It slashed its tuition.

By lowering its sticker price to \$13,000 from \$18,700 - a whopping 30 percent drop - for the coming fall semester, the liberal arts college hopes high school students and their cash-strapped families will take a hard look at this intimate, redbrick campus about 20 miles east of Peoria, Ill.

While schools around the country are boosting tuition to offset the rising cost of educating students, a few private, small liberal arts colleges like Eureka are drastically cutting tuition in the hopes of emerging from the blur of private schools

priced in the \$20,000 range or being more competitive with local state schools.

"Putting the banner out and just sitting there quietly works for Harvard," said Brian Sajko, dean of admissions and financial aid at Eureka. "It probably wouldn't work for us. We need to wave the banner."

Right now, the trend is restricted to small private schools like Eureka, but it is one of the first real breaks parents have seen in skyrocketing college tuition and shows that some schools are beginning to get more creative.

These are not schools with the hefty endowment or the elite student profile of a Williams College or Grinnell College. They are mostly schools, while academically solid and possessing long traditions, that have experienced flat or declining enrollments as their tuition has crept upward.

Nevertheless, the rollback is earn-

ing schools like Eureka, which is perhaps best known outside Illinois as a "Jeopardy" answer (what is the alma mater of President Ronald Reagan?), closer looks from talented high school students like Terry Vaughn, 18.

Vaughn, who said he is weighing offers from schools including Bradley University and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, calls Eureka's lower tuition a "huge positive."

"It makes the school more appealing to most students, like myself, who have to take into consideration overall costs as one of their highest priorities when finding a school," said Vaughn, a senior at East Peoria High School and a semifinalist for a four-year scholarship at Eureka named after the Class of 1932's most famous graduate: Reagan.

Following the successful lead of Muskingum College in Ohio,

Continued on page 3

Hear what students say about the BRIDGING DIFFERENCES workshops!

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The strong bond and dialogue formed between the amazing group of diverse people in the workshop made me realize that building a culture is a process—not just something that happens overnight.

—Freddie Foust, Senior in Business Management
Bryan School of Business and Economics



The workshop enhanced my knowledge of cultures, lifestyles, and traditions and allowed me to strengthen my foundation of diversity and its importance to our community.

—Kalisha Rainey, Senior in Anthropology
College of Arts and Sciences



In the Bridging Differences workshops, I joined with other participants on a journey of discovery. Experiencing this program took me beyond diversity consciousness—it empowered me with self-awareness.

—Patty Tiska-Rivers, Graduate Student
Curriculum and Instruction
School of Education



”

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Thursday, April 15, 2004
3:30 pm – 5:00 pm

WORKSHOP 2 Basic Foundations

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Thursday, March 18, 2004
8:30 am – 12:30 pm

Saturday, March 20, 2004
1:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Tuesday, April 20, 2004
1:00 pm – 5:00 pm

WORKSHOP 3 Beyond the Basics

To register for Workshop 3, you must have attended Workshop 2

Tuesday, March 23, 2004
8:30 am – 12:30 pm

Wednesday, April 28, 2004
1:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Get a registration form at maf.dept.uncg.edu/bdp.

For more information, call the Office of Multicultural Affairs at 334-5090

University of Washington balks at off-campus code of conduct bill

Allison Peryea
The Seattle Times
(KRT)

While student leaders and administrators at the University of Washington are sometimes at odds, they can agree on one thing: Student conduct codes should not extend beyond campus boundaries.

Lobbyists for both the Husky student body and the institution are fighting a bill that would require public colleges and universities to adopt rules penalizing "disruptive" off-campus behavior.

Randy Hodgins, the university's director of state relations, thinks the bill's language is too broad and vague, which could "assign to us almost limitless responsibility for certain types of conduct."

Under HB 2807, illegal actions by students that could "harm the reputation of the institution" or damage the relationship between the school and the surrounding community could result in counseling, probation, suspension or expulsion.

Advocates of the bill say the Sept. 28 disturbance on the University District's Greek Row - which involved hundreds of people - is only the most recent event in an ongoing parade of noise and violence in the area.

"We have dealt with anything and everything you could imagine - brawls, property damage and theft, weapons display, illegal dumping, drug activity," said Kent Wills, vice president of the University Park Community Club. Wills has lived near the UW for nine years. "Where we live, every day is a party day."

Wills said he has repeatedly taken his complaints to the UW's Board of Regents but has always been denied relief.

"This has been a problem for years - and the university has been unwilling to do anything about it," said Rep. Ed Murray, D-Seattle, who introduced the measure.

Murray's bill is supported by the Seattle Police Department and the city of Seattle.

"To attend the UW or other state universities is a privilege that demands a higher level of behavior," said Seattle police Assistant Chief Jim Pegel.

The measure cleared the House 91-3 earlier last week and was scheduled for a hearing Monday at 1:30 p.m. before the Senate Education Committee.

Student representatives say the bill's guidelines are unclear and leave students uninformed about school expectations for off-campus behavior or the consequences of that behavior.

"How are we going to know if we are in a place that is 'proximate' to the campus when there are no definite boundaries?" asked Nate Caminos, a lobbyist for the Associated Students of the University of Washington.

An amendment requiring student participation in developing off-campus conduct codes was removed, Caminos added.

Some believe the legislation would violate students' civil rights.

"Once a student leaves campus, the school should have no jurisdiction," said Doug Honig, communications director for the American Civil Liberties Union of Washington. "If a law is broken, the police can take action."

Ernest Morris, UW vice president of student affairs, says the bill is unnecessary because the university has already worked to address concerns.

The creation of "incident-prevention teams" - pairs of UW police officers - that patrol the area north of campus has cut down on noise and alcohol-related problems, he said.

"Steps taken in concert with the students have begun to make a very positive difference," Morris said.

He pointed out that none of the seven people charged in last fall's commotion - when a car was overturned and a mattress set ablaze - attended the university.

An extension of the conduct code "would not have prevented the incident," said Tara Hendershott, president of the UW Panhellenic Association, which oversees the school's 16 residential sororities.

She believes the legislation is "unfairly targeted at students living in (the Greek system) area, since it is adjacent to campus."

Because of students' due-process rights, implementing Murray's measure would be expensive, Morris predicted.

He estimated the university would have to hire five additional employees to conduct hearings and deal with paperwork, which could cost \$320,000 to \$350,000 each year.

Currently, Washington State University applies its conduct code to off-campus behavior that could be "detrimental to the university mission." Student conduct codes at Central Washington University and the UW do not apply beyond campus boundaries.

Language in the regulations of the other four-year institutions (Western Washington University, Eastern Washington University and The Evergreen State College) could be interpreted to pertain only to certain illegal off-campus activities.

Elsewhere from page 1

toys, clothes, books, fabric and furniture are all there for the artists to incorporate into their works. Once completed, however, it stays in the space. Nothing leaves the gallery. "We're not a store, but we'll play store with you," says Stephanie Sherman, one of Elsewhere's volunteers.

Elsewhere has been around since May 2003, and it received a boost

last week when nine students from the University of Michigan came to work in the space on an alternative spring break. These students chose to come to Greensboro instead of places like Cancun or Daytona Beach, and their school funded the trip.

"This offers them a new interpretive environment," says Scheer. "It's a watermark idea; the plan is to see what happens when artists leave their watermark on the space and the effect it has afterwards."

The focus behind this indoor playground is to get people to come

inside, participate in the program and leave their mark and develop a personal relationship with the space. Elsewhere's unique resources, which include everything from bolts of old fabric to piles of Legos, give artists opportunities they wouldn't normally have. Re-applied thrift is a main theme for this project, and because nothing ever leaves the space, there is always the opportunity to try something new with something old, according to volunteers.

A free exhibition will be held at Elsewhere, 606 S. Elm St. at 8:00 tomorrow. Call 549-5555 for more info.

Elsewhere is currently receiving funding from the United Arts Council and is pursuing grants and other outside funding. Most of Elsewhere's volunteers have other jobs, which makes fundraising an extra

challenge.

"It's the best full time job that we don't get paid for," says Sherman.

Elsewhere is hosting an exhibition tomorrow at 8:00 p.m. to showcase the visiting students' work. The space is downtown at 606 South Elm Street.

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Tuition cut from page 2

schools like Eureka hope the price cut will fill more seats with students who may have landed in a state school or a competing private college.

Put bluntly, schools are looking to drive up revenue at the same time they separate themselves from the competition.

"If you get 25 percent more applicants, then you are doing what you wanted to do," said Jeff Zellers, dean of enrollment at Muskingum.

Westminster College in Fulton, Mo., jumped to 821 students from 650 after it dropped tuition by more than \$3,000.

College officials said lowering the tuition price tag only makes sense because fewer and fewer students actually pay full tuition at their schools.

Officials said that "discounting," the often murky practice of bundling grants and scholarships to reduce the actual tuition cost, has reached epidemic proportions, with only a fraction of students paying full fare.

The radical notion of cutting - rather than hiking - tuition first emerged in the mid-1990s in New Concord, Ohio, where officials at Muskingum College, the alma mater of U.S. senator and astronaut John Glenn, began fretting about the liberal arts college's future.

Muskingum's Zellers said the school wasn't in bad shape. The college had just completed a \$38 million capital campaign and enrollment was around 1,000.

But college officials saw a disturbing trend: Only 10 percent of Muskingum students were paying full tuition.

"Why not consider this?" Zellers said of cutting tuition.

Concerns over public perception emerged as one of school officials'

primary worries. College officials talk about the "Reverse Chivas" effect: Low price means low quality.

To probe how the price cut would be perceived, Muskingum ordered a Gallup poll, and interviewers contacted 600 families with high school seniors interested in the college. Respondents, who weren't told that Muskingum was behind the poll, were asked what they would think about a school that cut its tuition.

The results were overwhelmingly positive, Zellers said.

"The fear we had about the fact we might be looked at as a school doing this in desperation - that's not how the public would perceive us," he said.

Muskingum made the announcement in November 1995 that it was reducing its tuition by \$4,000 - to \$9,850 from \$13,850 - for the next fall and the school enrolled one its largest classes in 25 years.

Subsequent classes have also grown, and enrollment has mushroomed to around 1,550, where the school will stay, Zellers said. He said tuition cuts work at schools "that are solid to begin with."

"If more people look, the college will sell itself," he said.

That is what administrators at Eureka are hoping for.

The school, which celebrates its 150th anniversary next year, typically receives 800 applications and enrolls about 125 freshmen. Eureka only enrolled 91 freshmen last year after a tuition increase and cut in financial aid discouraged students from attending.

Sajko and Eureka President Paul Lister said they want the school to shed its image as "a best-kept secret," and they think the tuition plan will help create the buzz to do just that.

Firms' ties with higher learning debated

Ieva M. Augstums and
Toya Lynn Stewart
The Dallas Morning News
(KRT)

DALLAS - To do his job successfully, Curtis Jenkins needs a car - or about four dozen.

He also needs up-to-date service manuals, curriculum materials for 31 students and thousands of dollars' worth of shop tools.

"Luckily, Toyota has donated all that to us," said Jenkins, program director for automotive technologies at Eastfield College in Mesquite, Texas. "They have literally put a couple of million dollars into this program since 1997."

As budgets tighten and government funding shrinks, colleges and universities are starting to adopt marketplace techniques to succeed.

The practice of accepting corporate donations, alumni gifts and research grants is customary on campuses nationwide. In fact, some say donations are needed more today than ever.

But the idea of accepting outside money to fund academic programs is drawing criticism from some education policy advocates. It can jeopardize and even alter the basic nature and purpose of higher education, they say.

"You are talking about institutions who are struggling to make ends meet because the appropriation of money isn't there," said Alex Molnar, director of the Commercialism in Education Research Unit at the Education Policy Studies Laboratory at Arizona State University.

"But what's at stake is academic freedom," Molnar said. "Schools shouldn't be looking to the business world to tell them how to run their affairs."

K-12 schools nationwide get more than \$2.4 billion per year from business partnerships, according to a report issued in 2002 by the Council for Corporate & School Partnerships in Washington, D.C.

The council doesn't have a dollar amount for higher education institutions, but Molnar said he is sure it's much greater.

"Walk onto any college campus, and you will see commercialism," he said. "It's unavoidable."

At the University of Texas at

Arlington, advertising on recycling bins blankets high-traffic walkways.

At Southern Methodist University, a \$90,000 gift from Nokia Mobile Phones in Irving, Texas, enabled the school to set up a wireless networking lab - including a cellular base station - that serves as a research resource for students.

And at Eastfield College, Tarrant County College and Kilgore College, automotive students learn on donated cars and work at Toyota dealerships throughout North Texas.

Some education advocates believe things are getting out of hand.

"Companies are trying any possible way to push their brands, and schools are letting them," said Pratap Chatterjee, program director for CorpWatch, a California-based group that opposes corporate involvement. "It's not like it didn't happen before, but now it's being advocated and promoted by the companies themselves, not just the schools."

Toyota seeks out schools to participate in its Toyota Technical Education Network program.

"We will look for an area that significantly has a lot of dealerships and then conduct a campus-to-campus search," said Don Cole, technical capacity manager for Gulf States Toyota in Houston. "There's no good graduating these folks if we can't put them to work."

Even though it appears businesses are pushing their own agendas, the idea of corporations pursuing school programs doesn't bother Robert Aguero, vice chancellor of educational affairs for the Dallas County Community College District.

Because the district is receiving less state funding, programs have to be more creative in finding ways to generate income, Aguero said.

"It has been an initiative to develop more partnerships in Texas. It's part of our mission now," he said.

At SMU last year, more than 2,000 businesses and corporations worked with students, sponsored activities and provided scholarship money.

Those partnerships are needed if schools want to keep pace with technology and the outside world.

"I think higher education needs corporate input. Otherwise we will become stagnant," said Jann Patterson, SMU's director of corporate and foundation relations.

At SMU's Nokia Wireless Networking Laboratory, Nokia doesn't dictate what is taught in classes. Instead, students use wireless materials provided by the company to research and learn wireless standards, including Bluetooth, wireless LAN and cellular.

The same goes for Toyota. The three automotive programs at area schools teach auto service and mechanics and don't specialize in Toyota vehicles.

From a corporation's point of view, it's advantageous to partner with a school.

The business receives name recognition and has the opportunity to present its products to a captive audience, said Nick Gillespie, editor of Reason Magazine, a monthly publication on politics and culture.

"Both parties get something out of it that they want or need because they can't do it alone," Gillespie said.

OutdoorPartner Media Inc. provided UTA with 10 recycling receptacles at no cost.

Local businesses advertise on the bins, and the university receives 10 percent of the advertising revenue and 100 percent of the recycling revenue. Students can earn money by selling the ads on the bins.

"We're helping keep communities clean," said Ari Huber, president of the Toronto-based company. "We're giving local advertisers a venue to promote their businesses, and we're generating revenue for the university and students."

The commercialization doesn't seem to affect many students.

"I think it's a good idea," said Bounthong Noymany, a UTA sophomore who is majoring in manufacturing information systems. "With federal and state funding being cut, the more we privatize - letting private business pay for school bills - the tuition could remain the same or go down."

Others, such as sophomore Erin Meier, are more cautious.

"It would only get to be too much if it starts interfering with education," said Meier, who is majoring in marketing and radiological science. "Product loyalty shouldn't take the place of what's best for the student."

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"Superstar" struggles to overcome campy source material

Josh Barrer
Staff Writer

Certain cultural trends do not age well. A look at any era's popular culture reveals dozens of massively embraced eccentricities that seem silly in retrospect. That's why UNCG Theater Department's production of Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice's "Jesus Christ Superstar" is something of a noble undertaking.

Retelling Jesus Christ's last days through a "rock opera" must have seemed like a better idea in the peace and love era of the late sixties and early 70's, although even in that context you have to wonder what schlockmeisters Webber and Rice were thinking. Setting lyrics like "that Jesus is a cool guy" to tepid funk rock and having an ensemble of followers sing about crucifying "JC" over poppy show tunes reeks of an attempt to make groovy a story that, though compelling, is intrinsically not.

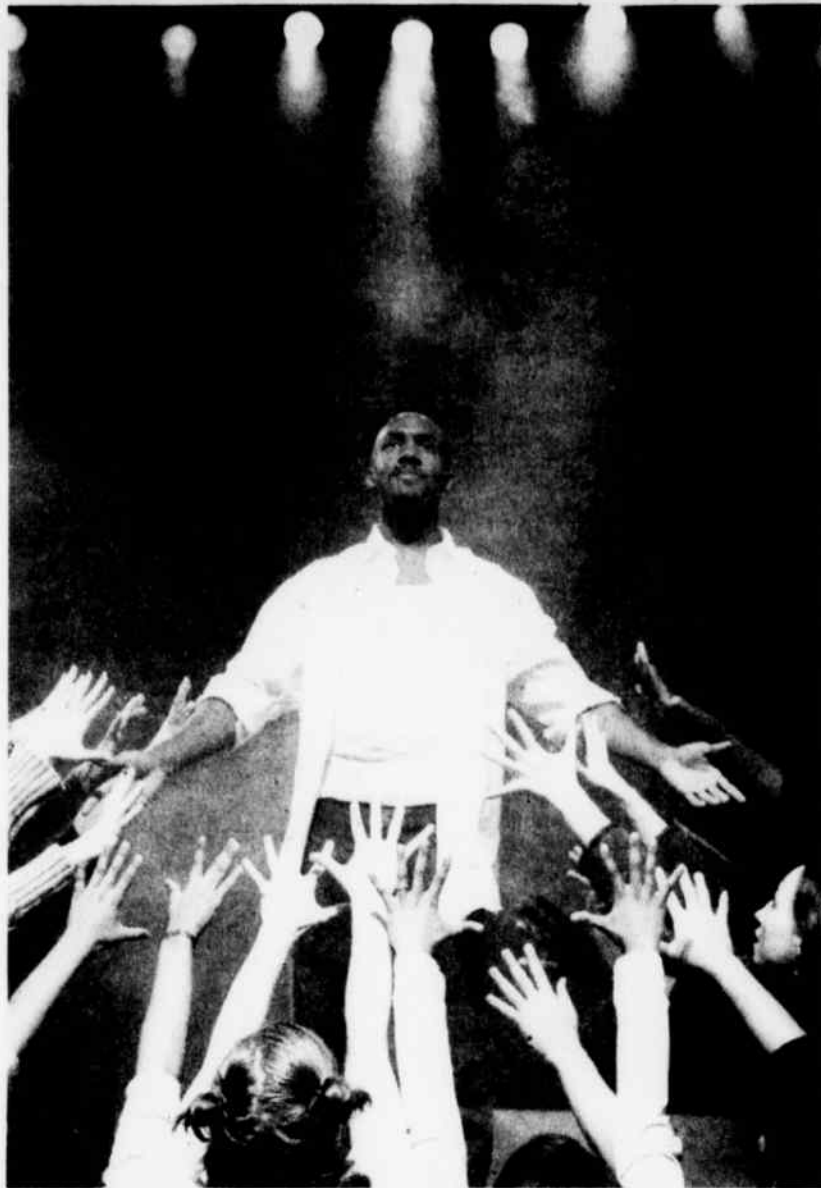
Director Jim Wren surely understood this, and has tried to modernize the play in a number of ways. The opening is set in a rave, and the dark metallic set and skimpy costumes suggest the strong influence of the urban sexuality of "Rent." Though this creates interesting visuals, the costuming and staging occasionally prove distracting. Especially problematic is the costuming of Roman council, whose black trench coats

and gold necklaces suggest goth Nazis with a taste for bling.

Wren's uphill battle to make the play a success is only made worse by various sound problems. The acoustics in Taylor Theatre seem less than desirable, and as such, all the principle players wore pop diva style microphone headpieces, which not only look silly, but usually result in the singing being far too quiet, or horribly distorted when they shouted into the mics. To make matters worse, the musicians providing the score usually sounded distant and tinny, especially the ridiculously chintzy keyboard parts, which made what should have been dramatic scenes (such as Judas' betrayal) awkwardly comic.

Considering what they had to work with and the various technical issues working against them, Wren and his cast manage to do a pretty good job. Though Nathan C. Crocker's Jesus is slightly underwhelming in the first act (in part because of the writing), he redeems himself admirably in the second, the "Gethsemane" scene being his high point.

In arguably the most complex and important role, Brandon Ellis does an admirable job as Judas, managing to capture the torment of his character in spite of the occasional over-emoting called for by musicals. As the villainous Caiaphas, Nathan Anderson is occasionally upstaged by his silly Roman costume and the bizarre croaking baritone he is occasionally called upon to employ, and as such never seems as menacing as he should.



Nathan Crocker and disciples in "Jesus Christ Superstar."

Freshman Jon Douglas' Pilate is particularly impressive, elevating his smaller role into one of the most memorable in the play. The same could be said of Amy Blue's over the

top, hedonistic diva Herod, who arrives on stage in a plush bed and commands a troupe of silver clad dancers. The ensemble also does a good job overall, switching rapidly

from rave dancers to black clad news reporters to silver lingerie dancers.

The play itself gets considerably better and more inspired in its staging during the second act, thanks in part to several well choreographed scenes and the abandonment of the rave setting. Though there are still some semi-distracting attempts at modernization (Judas commits suicide through a heroin overdose), it feels tighter and better executed as a whole. Lighting effects were also used effectively, particularly during the scene in which attention is darted around the stage by the flashing of reporter's cameras and the bright red bursts used during Jesus' torture.

The climactic performance of the title song was also memorable, since Wren seems to have fully embraced the essential silliness of the material and pushes the play well over the top. On the stage floor, dancers clad in red spandex suits slink back and forth around Judas, representing a particularly party-like Hell, while on a platform above the stage, a troupe of white lingerie-clad angels are revealed. It's a terrifically memorable image and perhaps the one moment when everyone involved is able to overcome the campiness. One wonders if this was the intention all along: to subvert the time capsule qualities of the original play by giving it a setting equally as ephemeral.

"Jesus Christ Superstar" runs February 20-29 at the Taylor Theater. Call 334-4849 for tickets.

Ryan gets *Rope*-burn

America's sweetheart tries on some "Erin Brockovich" sass

Ben Kaufher
Staff Writer

Perhaps the perpetual smog of Hollywood clouds the judgment of its inhabitants. Meg Ryan is at it again. In a further attempt to break out of her signature America's Sweetheart role, she has taken on push-up bras and pleather miniskirts in "Against the Ropes." Where "In the Cut," her earlier attempt at drama, was arty mediocrity, this one comes off as a crappy made-for-TV blend of "Erin Brockovich" with the worst of the "Rocky" series.

The film depicts a fictionalized version of the rise of Jackie Kallen, boxing's most famous female manager, in the man's world of the sport. The audience knows it's a man's world because of the way the camera lingers all over Ryan's assets. Kallen is a tough-talking broad who can hold her own in the management ring. The audience knows this because Ryan affects the worst smoke-filled Midwestern accent in the history of film, and because her clothing gets smaller and smaller while she does it.

In the film, Kallen finds a potential middleweight star (Omar Epps) and turns him into a real pro. The audience knows that he's a real pro because of the requisite 'success montage,' featuring lots of cross dis-



Charles S. Dutton and Meg Ryan in "Against the Ropes."

solves of stuntmen punching each other.

In the end, if the audience hasn't walked out, they can see that "Against the Ropes" turns out not to be about Kallen at all, but her boxer, as the story wanders off into his Big Fight Scene and becomes less of a tough cookie movie and more of a sports drama. After she learns her sitcom lesson, she basically hightails it out of the film.

Tony Shaloub has fun berating people as a rival manager, and Charles S. Dutton gives the film a little life as the weary old trainer. As a director, though, he obviously has no idea what he is doing, nor do the writer, cinematographer, or editor.

In fact, the only one who seems to have any sort of clear vision is Michael Kamen, the film's composer. His vision, though, is that of a musical sledgehammer, bashing the audi-

ence in the face with whatever emotion should be felt.

Ryan is a good actress caught in a slump, and this one certainly won't pull her out of it. She cannot act if she has no material with which to do so, and "Against the Ropes" sinks under the weight of cliché.

Who knows what Ryan was thinking when making this film. Perhaps, in portraying a real-life, sexualized go-getter, she was attempting to curry Oscar favor by showing her range as well as her breasts. After all, the Other America's Sweetheart did it.

"Against the Ropes" is plays daily at the Carousel Grande Cinema 15. Call 230-1620 for showtimes.

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Bands prove Thursday is the new Friday

Josh Barrer
Staff Writer

Thursday night is the new Friday night, and this was apparent last week at New York Pizza. The Tate Street bar and restaurant was filled to claustrophobia with people checking out a trio of bands. Greensboro based Mortar & Pestle and The Leaving, as well as a California act, People Chasing People, played tight sets that made many people happy to not have any Friday classes.

New York Pizza is quickly establishing a reputation as one of the prime venues to catch local music, and they proved their reputation to be a deserved one. With the bar bursting before the first band even came on, the NYP staff quickly removed several tables to create more standing room.

Local favorites Mortar & Pestle (compromised entirely of UNCG students) played the first set. The band has been together for over a year now, and is evolving into what might be one of UNCG's best. Sounding something like a tighter, mellow Modest Mouse, Mortar & Pestle's sound hinged primarily upon guitarist Josh Kimbrough's playing, which moved naturally from strong rhythmic riffs to fluttering, jazzy solos.

The rhythm section was also strong, with Joe Norkus's bass lines serving as a commanding presence, while light keyboards reinforced the music's melodic elements. Kimbrough, who only recently started singing for the group, proved to be as dynamic a vocalist as he is a guitarist, his lyrics and vocals adding another edge to the music.

Between songs, the band bantered with the crowd, asking if they wanted "chill songs or dance songs." Mostly, the crowd responded to the latter, and the band played their most upbeat, rocking songs. The only downside to the set was that it was far too short.

Mortar & Pestle were followed by California band, People Chasing People, who followed the previous band's lead and played fast, energetic garage punk. Though not as instantly inviting as Mortar & Pestle's music, People Chasing People delivered a strong set, and their energy and chugging guitars won the crowd over.

The final act of the night was UNCG duo The Leaving, who just released their debut album. They didn't take the stage until around midnight, but their mellow, compelling music was a perfect fit. The pretty vocals and intriguing lyrics washed over the crowd, providing a low key, but effective end to an evening of great music.

NOW HIRING

The Carolinian's A&E section is looking for writers and reviewers.

Interested?

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American idol

Are porn stars the new rock stars?



Neurotica

Who is your favorite porn star?

A few years ago, you probably would not have been able to answer that question with a name, maybe not at all. Most people don't stick around after a porno is over to watch the credits. They don't necessarily keep up with the career of a particular porn stud or starlet.

In general, actors and actresses in the adult film industry are pretty anonymous. Thanks to the Internet porn has become so easily produced and accessible you can view hundreds of sites and never see the same ass twice. It kinda makes you long for the days when John Holmes and Ron Jeremy were mini cult icons.

Those days may be on their way back. Porn has been slowly seeping into mainstream culture for years now. Celebrities appear in "Playboy" and "Playgirl," porn stars show up in music videos, and everyone mixes and mingles at the Playboy Mansion. Porn Star t-shirts, stickers and beanies are widely available in surf and skate shops. Porn has even left its mark on literature. Irvine Welsh's novel, "Porno," and, more recently, Martin Amis's "Yellow Dog," are both set in the world of erotic filmmaking, as are the films "Boogie Nights" and "The Fluffer."

It's obvious that people are not only into porn, they're interested in the world of porn, the people behind it and the people in it. It makes you wonder: are porn stars the new rock stars?

People are fascinated by porn stars in the same way we are fascinated by mainstream celebrities. We want to know more about them, we want a piece of them. This fascination has translated into what I imagine is a pretty lucrative business. Magazines and videos aren't the only things for sale now. Porn stars are beginning to market their image just like other celebs.

Run an Internet search of any porn star's name and there's no telling what you'll find. But the most well known usually have an official website. Aside from the naked pictures, porn stars' homepages are almost identical to rock stars'. They usually have biographies, filmographies and appearance schedules.

Nina Hartley's official site (nina.com) has an online journal in which she writes about her experiences in the business, her personal sex life and, of all things, her opinion on the "Lord of the Rings" films. Gay-for-pay star Caesar's site (caesarworld.com) even includes his workout regimen and diet for fans who want their own porn star body.

Speaking of porn star bodies, what ardent fan's collection would be complete without a "love doll" made in the image of his or her idol? The Nina Hartley doll sports multi-speed vibrations and a "face and genitals molded from Nina's own." Porn legend John Holmes's "fantasy doll" can penetrate and be penetrated.

If you can't handle the whole person, there is literally a galaxy of sex toys molded from porn stars' genitalia. From Jenna Jameson's vagina to Julie Ashton's ass, these toys tend to be sturdier and made of more realistic feeling material than blow-up dolls. Dildos modeled from 1970s stars like Holmes and Ron Jeremy provide a blast from the past, while current golden boy of gay porn Matthew Rush's dong works for both boys and girls.

The folks at Plastic Fantasy (plasticfantasy.com) have put a whole new spin on sex toys. Like Janis Joplin, Jim Morrison and Jerry Garcia before them, some adult stars now have their own action figures. Barbie's got nothing on these anatomically correct babies.

And if your lust for porn memorabilia still isn't sated, some stars offer even more intimate items. Both Chloe (chloexxx.com) and Zack Spears (zackspears.com) sell used clothing and underwear through their sites.

Obviously there is a market for all of these products and it means one thing: porn stars have gained a legitimate status in pop culture. They have gone from sleazy nobodies to icons, the people everyone wants to be.

UNCG Jazz Ensemble to play tribute to Ella Fitzgerald

University News Service

The Jazz Ensemble at The University of North Carolina at Greensboro will pay tribute to one of the leading ladies of jazz March 3 and 4, when it presents a condensed version of the new musical, "Ella - The Life and Music of Ella Fitzgerald."

The musical weaves together vignettes of Fitzgerald's life experiences with some of her most notable songs, including "I'm in the Mood for Love," "Summertime," "Blue Skies," and "Tea for Two." It was written by Gary Spell and features singer Norma Bass as the jazz icon.

Steve Haines, director of the Miles Davis Program in Jazz Studies at UNCG, arranged the music for the

musical and will bring a shortened version of the show to UNCG. The world premiere of the full performance will take place Thursday through Sunday, Feb. 26-29, at the Regent University Performance Theatre in Virginia Beach.

The UNCG concerts will start at 7:30 p.m. in the School of Music Recital Hall. The first half of the concert will feature Steve Haines (bass), Tom Taylor (drums) and Keith Byrd (piano). The trio will be backing up Norma Bass, who will be acting and performing as Ella Fitzgerald. The second half of the show will feature Bass and the UNCG Jazz Ensemble.

For more information about the full-length musical, go to www.ellathemusical.com.

Big Fish author reads at UNCG

Hilary Hellens
Staff Writer

Daniel Wallace, author of "Big Fish," read last Thursday to a packed Faculty Center. Over 100 faculty, students and Greensboro residents spilled from the small building's doors to hear the author speak.

While many expected to hear a couple chapters from "Big Fish," now an Oscar-nominated movie, Wallace surprised the audience by reading an unpublished short story about a father, his wooden leg and his humorous relationship with his son. When Wallace revealed that the father had bet his leg in a game of cards and lost, the room erupted in laughter.

But it wasn't all comedy. Readers said Wallace's work harbors a cacophony of dark humor and deep-set human emotion that isn't easy to pin down.

"Big Fish," Wallace's first novel, was published in 1998. In 2003 it was made into a movie directed by Tim Burton. In the film, Wallace appears briefly as a teacher. The novel, like the surprise short story, chronicles a father-son relationship. The son, William, struggles to understand his ailing father's history, which he knows only through tall tales.

Wallace said he recently realized that most of his work deals with father and son relationships, but couldn't say why. He once wrote the words "my mother" on a sheet of paper, he told the crowd, and nothing came. He then wrote the words "my father" and a story wrote itself.

The success of the film version of "Big Fish" has been an unexpected



ROSEMARY YELTON / THE CAROLINIAN

Daniel Wallace signs one of his books for a fan after reading at the faculty center last Thursday.

pleasure, Wallace said. When he sold the rights to the book a few years ago, he said, he couldn't imagine anything good would come of it. Realizing it would bring more readers to the book he signed off on a screenplay and hoped a good director would be attached. Though Stephen Spielberg and Jack Nicholson's names were attached to the project early on, it was Tim Burton who ended up at the helm. Wallace called Burton "my favorite director" and said that from Burton's attachment on, everything ran smoothly.

"I don't know how unbiased I can be," Wallace said of the movie. "But I think it's one of the best films I've seen this year. Based on one of my books, anyway."

Wallace said he purposely decided not to do the easy thing and read from "Big Fish." Though many came because they had heard of the book, people in the audience said they left pleased.

"His delivery was amazing. It was kind of like a sketch comedy," said Parker Bell, a UNCG alumnus.

Bell added that UNCG, which many call a suitcase school with few interesting events, would benefit from more high-profile readings like this one.

"I think it is good to get someone big to come in. It definitely draws in a lot more people to these readings," he said.

There was a question and answer period following the reading, as well as a reception. People lined up for Wallace to sign his books, which were available for sale at the event.

When asked if a movie was to be made of his newest novel, "The Watermelon King," Wallace laughed and asked, "Why, are you a producer? Honestly, this has been a wonderful adventure. I never even dreamed it would happen. Would you?"

Queer and Kinky pop music

Knight Ridder Newspapers (KRT)

SOUNDTRACK

"Queer Eye for the Straight Guy" 3 stars

The first Fab Five, Duran Duran, regroups

its original lineup for the first time in nearly 20 years to cut a catchy new dance-pop tune, "Sunrise," for the soundtrack tie-in to the TV makeover show in which a group of gay men, also dubbed the Fab Five, teach straight men how to live.

The TV show has the shelf-life of bread but this mostly appealing dance disc has many uses.

One: Use it to reacquaint yourself with Duran Duran. The Britpop group wasn't that bad and this new song is quite good in a pure pop sense.

Two: Work out to it. Thumping dance tracks by Basement Jaxx, Kylie Minogue, Ingrid, Junior Senior and Elton John and a New Wave-like bauble from OK Go make 20 minutes on the treadmill zip by. (By the way, yes, that Elton John, thanks to the inclusion of "Are You Ready For

Love," a long-forgotten track originally recorded in 1977 with Spinners' producer Thom Bell and a recent surprise smash hit in England upon its remix and reissue.)

Three: Exercise your pointer finger by jabbing the remote's skip button when some of the CD's lesser tracks run out of steam. (Begone Sting, Jamelia and Prophet Omega.)

Four: The booklet includes the Fab Five's Hip Tips for better living. Learn how to make a cocktail ("Use only the best ingredients," suggests Ted Allen - well, duh!); look like a rock star with the use of the right pair of sunglasses according to Carson Kressley; and this helpful hint from Jai Rodriguez on how to open a CD: "Slide the bottom of it across the edge of a table."

Of course, shouldn't that Hip Tip be printed on the outside cover before you struggle with the infernal plastic and tape?

-Howard Cohen

KINKY "Atlas" 3 stars

Kinky's sophomore effort "Atlas" exemplifies the eclectic, all-embracing

spirit driving alternative Latin music these days. This quintet of Monterrey, Mexico natives mixes an assortment of styles - including rock, funk, jazz, norteno, quebradita and Colombian cumbia - with its dance/electronic core to create multilayered, kaleidoscopic songs with a vibrant, sparkling and intensely danceable sound.

Kinky clearly went into the studio willing to take chances and shoot for a unique, original sound: Teeth-baring electric guitars mesh with electronica grooves, while thumping techno beats interlock with timbales and drums, taking the listener on an exciting sonic journey full of unexpected and exhilarating twists and turns.

Kinky also deserves credit for addressing unconventional topics, such as Mexico's current president, the nature of time, air travel and the monotony of life. The group also gets points for abstaining from vulgarity (don't be misled by the group's name) and for writing songs both in English and Spanish. The lyrics, however, could be a lot tighter and snappier.

In short, "Atlas" is one of the best Latin music releases of the past few months and a joy to listen to.

-Juan Carlos Perez Rodriguez

COLLEGE BLUES BY CHRIS SCHWAB

NAME: KURTIS
YEAR: JUNIOR
LIKES: ART
DISLIKES: MANY, MANY THINGS
ASPIRATIONS: TO ONE DAY ESCAPE WITH A PASSING GRADE FROM THE FOREIGN LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT (aka DUNGEON).

NAME: MARTIN
YEAR: SENIOR
LIKES: BEING NAKED
DISLIKES: GETTING CAUGHT DOING WHATEVER
ASPIRATIONS: TO COMPETE FOR THE U.S.A. WHEN, IF EVER, A PISSING CONTEST BECOMES AN OLYMPIC SPORT.

NAME: ROGER
YEAR: THIRD YEAR FRESHMAN
LIKES: BONOBOS
DISLIKES: THE ZOO
ASPIRATIONS: WORLD DOMINATION, THEN A DRIVER'S LICENSE.

NAME: ARTEY
YEAR: JUNIOR
LIKES: MOSTLY HIMSELF
DISLIKES: MACINTOSH (WITH A PASSION)
ASPIRATIONS: TO SECURE A LIFESTYLE THAT DOESN'T INCLUDE LIVING WITH ONE'S PARENTS BEFORE COLLEGE ENDS.

NAME: RANDY
YEAR: NOT ENROLLED
LIKES: COLD BEER
DISLIKES: THE FUZZ
ASPIRATIONS: HOPES TO SCORE A CASE AND GET ROWDY BEFORE THE NIGHT ENDS.



Editorial Policy

Commentaries and letters may be submitted by mail to the Opinions Editor in The Carolinian office, 236 Elliott University Center, or e-mailed to the_carolinian@hotmail.com. 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

Coming Next Issue

A new guest columnist, and more of your adoring fan mail...er, letters.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2004 | PAGE 6

Why must a college education be so costly?

Chester E. Finn Jr.
Hoover Institution

In 1988, I wrote that "consumers need a 'no-frills university' to turn the higher-education marketplace upside down." I lamented that "the \$80,000 bachelor's degree is upon us, and the \$100,000 edition cannot be far away."

Today you can double those numbers. We are headed toward the quarter-million-dollar B.A.

In 1987, touring colleges with my kids, I was shaken by two realities: first, the absence of any sort of productivity gains in higher education, amid an economy whose principal engine of growth was (and remains) improved output per unit of worker input; second, the tendency of U.S. colleges to compete for desirable students by adding upscale amenities, what a Mount Holyoke dean once termed the "Chivas Regal strategy." (During our campus visits, my daughter remarked that it was like comparing resort hotels.)

My own children are fortunately-finished with all that, but the idea of creating some stripped-down, no-frills college models seems even more apt today. What would such places look like?

Key features would include a lean administration, few nonteaching employees, and most campus jobs performed by students or outsourced; amenities (entertainment, food courts, fancy gyms, etc.) left to entrepreneurs _ and paid for by those who use them; a year-round calendar with facilities in constant use, steady work for employees, and the opportunity for energetic students to finish faster; faculty that are paid well but worked hard; a trimmed-down curriculum with a solid core and strong majors in a dozen fields but no pretense of teaching everything; and rigorous exit standards with diplomas equivalent to an intellectual "warranty."

This model could serve as a plausible formula for containing the cost and price of higher education and

eking some productivity gains from this enterprise.

What's happened since 1988, however, seems noteworthy on four fronts.

First, yesterday's troubling trends have intensified. Students take ever longer to complete their degrees. The academic week and year grow ever shorter as amenities grow yet more lavish (indoor climbing walls?).

Second, whereas the price pain then was felt primarily by those at private campuses, today the public university price tag is soaring, too.

Third, higher education has developed a fast-growing sector that follows the no-frills formula: the for-profit sector, characterized by the University of Phoenix and kindred vendors of reasonably efficient and relatively inexpensive postsecondary schooling.

Fourth, technology enables students to avail themselves of higher education without ever showing up on campus. The for-profit sector makes expert use of this delivery system, but traditional universities are working at it, too. Because distance learning makes it possible not only to slash campus expenses but also to extend a professor's "reach" to far more students, it serves wily-nilly to boost academic productivity.

As Congress and state legislatures seek to contain the cost of college, they may want to encourage more no-frills institutions and nudge more students toward the efficient providers. The starting point is to cease treating traditional college economics as immutable and instead to recognize that society has an obligation to reward efficiency and productivity here just like it does everywhere else.

ABOUT THE WRITER

Chester E. Finn Jr. is a senior fellow at the Hoover Institution, www.hoover.org; chairman of Hoover's Koret Task Force on K-12 Education; and president of the Thomas B. Fordham Foundation.

Letters to the Editor

Community Advisors Representing the University Well

Dear Editor,

I am writing because I wanted to publicly congratulate the hard work and efforts of the students and staff at our campus that were involved in the NCARH conference the first weekend of February.

I was asked to judge a roll call of all the schools in North Carolina. Since UNCG students involved with the Residence Hall Association were hosting the conference they went first. Two words come to mind when I reminisce about their performance- Go Spartans! The pride for UNCG bounced off everyone's face! UNCG began the roll call in true form with dance moves, spirit

filled cheers and a remembrance of 9/11 in testimony to the theme of the conference "a Call to Service". The conference appeared flawless due to the efforts of students and staff at UNCG!

In addition, I was VERY impressed with the new Spartan Force! If anyone has ever doubted that UNCG lacks spirit, pride or soul-check them out!

Congratulations is also in order to Johnathan Dillon who is the FIRST ever member to the State Board of Directors from UNCG.

I am very honored to have been a small part of such a wonderful group of students!

Diana Karczmarczyk
Housing and Residence Life

What, dancers? Pretentious?

Dear Editor,

Reading Lauren Guy's complaints on the Prime Mover's concert review written by Rae Marcus, one can only assume that Guy's forte is movement and decidedly not reading comprehension.

First, though Guy boasts "pages and pages" worth of complaints about the review by Marcus, she makes only one concrete one: Guy feels that Marcus's comments on the frequent combinations of "discordant music" with frenzied movements" were out of line and a personal insult to the institution of modern dance. However, Marcus gave relatively good reviews of the first two pieces of the concert, both of which employed the so-called offending music/motion combination. Marcus's actual critique was

that the combination became an overwhelming theme, a feeling echoed by several audience members. Indeed, if personally expressive visual art is the goal of UNCG dancers, one must assume that the results should not all look highly similar.

Guy also writes angrily that modern dance is not about spectacle, it is about realism. Forgive the impertinence, but I believe the joy of modern dance is its lack of rules and boundaries. The room to generate dance with a realistic or surreal product is a primary reason for our culture's preoccupation with modern dance. And indeed, art of any kind is spectacle: the portrayal of life or experience as we see for others to enjoy and contemplate.

Props to Marcus for her honest review, and perhaps Guy should keep her irrational slurs to herself in the future.

Jenny George

Building bridges...with Sesame chicken

Lenore Skenazy
New York Daily News (KRT)

Let's hear it for Chinese food! After all, that's what New York's Museum of the Chinese in the Americas is doing all this year - celebrating the most popular cuisine in the Skenazy household.

Coincidentally, it also happens to be the most popular cuisine in the world, consumed by 30 percent of humanity, according to Jacqueline Newman, editor of the Chinese food magazine Flavor and Fortune. The most popular Chinese-American dish, she adds, is beef with broccoli. Yum. Sesame chicken is No. 2. Excuse me while I make a quick call.

"... and No. 17, right? With the soup."

Sorry. Back to the story. Right now the museum is chock-full of artifacts from General Lee's, a Chinese restaurant that had a hundred-year run in Los Angeles, catering to the likes of Frank Sinatra and Barbra Streisand.

But as important as Chinese food is to Californians, to New Yorkers it is beyond important. It is the fuel that greases _ as it were _ our whole lifestyle. Would we really be a world power if we couldn't leave all the shopping, cooking and bike-careening to the local Chinese restaurant? And still get change from our \$20?

No way. Which is why soon the museum will pay homage to Chinese food closer to home, by featuring one New Yorker's collection of 10,000 Chinese menus.

The only difference between archivist Harley Spiller and the rest of us is that he keeps his stack of menus under his bed, while we generally keep them closer to the phone. Still, Spiller came upon his passion the same way most of us

did: "I moved to New York in 1981, and I was alone in my apartment," he says. "I heard a noise at the door, and I was scared." Tiptoeing over, he found a Chinese menu.

"It had squid on it, and I thought squid was only for science experiments!" recalls the Buffalo native. Equally intrigued by typos like "shrimp cooked in special chef" and "stuffed stuff," he started scouting out more.

Now his collection includes one menu from an 1879 banquet and a 1916 Chinatown menu that looks, he says, "the same as today, except for the prices." These go on exhibit this summer.

Salivating ... er, celebrating... the humble Chinese eatery may seem rather lowbrow for a highbrow institution. But not when you start to think about what those eateries meant to Chinese immigrants.

"Because the Chinese restaurant is ubiquitous," says museum spokesman William Dao, most Chinese-Americans are only one or two degrees away from the restaurant biz. And it was this business, along with laundering, that allowed Chinese immigrants to thrive here, despite language barriers and rampant discrimination.

At the same time, the Chinese restaurant also became the first place many Westerners encountered - and came to love - anything Chinese.

So while a bowl of wonton soup may not entirely bridge the culture gap, it's a start. And, this being New York, it's probably on the way.

ABOUT THE WRITER

Lenore Skenazy is a columnist for the New York Daily News, 450 West 33rd Street, New York, N.Y. 10001; e-mail: lskenazy@edit.nydailynews.com.

For Sentimental Reasons

Strange tales from The Carolinian office and one pointless, misty eyed moment



OUT OF MY HEAD

Joe Killian
Editor-in-Chief

A slice of life from The Carolinian office:

Last week our intrepid news editor, Will Ayers, somehow got the idea that a cubicle in the Student Groups area of the Elliott University Center was empty, except for a couch that was being stored there. In Will's defense the couch was just about the only thing in the cubicle - not a decoration or scrap of paper to be found anywhere. He made some inquiries, thought he'd discovered unused furniture (of which there is plenty in the vast sea of cramped cubicles) and we gave it a new home in The Carolinian office, which has been pretty bare since out move to the EUC, in which we lost a lot of furniture and equipment. Then, after asking around and getting the nod from someone who didn't know any better, he brought one of the myriad plants in the EUC in too.

Well, it turns out the couch belonged to a fraternity who meet in the space once a week, but otherwise leave no trace of their existence. The plant was NOT to be removed from its place in the hallway. No one was very happy about our thievery. And I can't blame them. We said we were sorry, gave the plant and the couch back and took our much deserved chewing

out from the Office of Student Life. So it seems that as a campus weekly we're a pretty successful little operation. As a den of thieves, however, we're a miserable failure. Which is fine by me. Somehow having this ridiculous story to tell people is almost worth the trouble.

Meanwhile...

The radio is playing in the office late on a Tuesday night - production night. News stories are still in the works, Sports and A&E are being put on their pages. In the morning the whole thing goes to our printer. A radio advertisement admonishes listeners "don't eat like a sissy."

Which is all it takes to send John Russell, our A&E editor and Gender Studies major, into a fit.

"We're gendering food now?!" he cries, to the laughs and applause of everyone in the office.

I tell him I think it's funny. He throws a cup full of pens and rulers at me.

"I'm trying to change the world, Joe..." he seethes as he slaps together pages.

"One angry rant at a time," I add.

He gives me that look I've been getting from him for years. It used to annoy me, but these days I shoot for it. It's a little like tossing a crumpled piece of paper into a wastebasket across the room. Silly, pointless, even a little childish...but somehow satisfying all the same.

Later over beers I tell him you don't always have to make your political point with a sledgehammer. "I like sledgehammers," he says.

Then I agree to help him plan an

erotica reading for charity and all is forgiven.

Also...

The Carolinian's next generation is hard at work in the form of young Kathryn Kennedy, a new writer covering the SGA and staying up till 3 a.m. to get her stories filed.

She bounds into my office on tip toes to update me on who she's interviewed and what she knows. She has to wake up at 8 a.m. the next morning and just after midnight she's still plugging away, telling us: "Well, I guess writing more stories is how I'll get better."

Will Ayers and I look at each other like proud parents whose child has just flown down the street on her bicycle, no training wheels. You have to admire that mixture of ambition and masochism - and it's just what The Carolinian's going to need in the coming years.

The time's coming soon when all of us who've kept this paper afloat (and built it into something worth reading over the years) will be gone. A few weeks ago I put a bunch of old Carolinians up on my office wall - from my first week as a news writer to the first issue of this semester. It's a lot to take in all at once, but there are a lot of memories there.

I guess looking out over the close of this year and the beginning of next should be a little sad. So many good friends and good writers will be gone. But somehow, when I look at what we've helped to build and the people who will take the reigns of it, I can't find even the beginnings of a tear.

Rightwing Fallacies



My Humble Opinion

Okla Elliott
Staff Writer

We've all watched as rightwing columnists change the subject or lie or make one of the most basic argumentative fallacies any Philosophy 101 student would recognize, but for some reason we've been lax in striking back. In order to fight back, we must first learn to recognize where and how they twist a subject or use cheap argumentative tricks to steamroll over their opponents.

Let's look at the most common rightwing attack method—ad hominem attacks. "Ad hominem" is Latin for "to/at the man" and is used to denote an argument that attacks the character of an opponent instead of that opponent's arguments. For example, when you hear rightwingers attacking John Kerry for using Botox (which is a lie, by the way) or saying he looks like he has a hound-dog face, instead of putting forth an argument for why he's wrong to want to reduce the federal deficit, you have a perfect example of an ad hominem assault. The most popular rightwing magazine, *The National Review*, recently ran an article titled "Frankenkerry", presumably referring to the incessant rightwing assault on Kerry's face, which they have decided looks just like Lurch's or Frankenstein's (I assume here they mean Frankenstein's monster, not Dr. Frankenstein, though with rightwing assaults you can never be sure). Admittedly, after I've had a few beers I'll make fun of Bush looking like a chimpanzee, but you'll find no major liberal columnist falling to this low of an assault, though you'd be hard-pressed to find a rightwing columnist who won't (William F. Buckley is the one exception I found).

Another common purposeful argumentative fallacy rightwingers use to cloud the real issues at hand is called the "straw man fallacy". This is where you attribute slightly altered beliefs to your opponent, thus misrepresenting their claims, in order to have an easy target for attacks. Remember when the liberals were saying that we should let UN inspections work because we wanted to know whether there were WMD before we killed tens of thousands of Iraqis? Risked the lives of our soldiers? What did the rightwingers say? They claimed that we were "pro-Saddam", which is simply absurd. We just thought that a war should be the last resort, not a first choice. We were even ready to go to war, if need be. The most common formation used here starts like this: "Well, you lib-ruls..." and then they fill in some absurd thing which we would never support. The effect of this is that we're put on the defensive and the rightwingers have defined the debate. My brother-in-law, an

unabashed rightwinger, always wants to pretend he knows what I as an individual believe because he once heard Rush Limbaugh say that all "lib-ruls" believe such-and-such. A recent absurdity he threw at me was that liberals want to give the UN control over the US. This is ridiculous. I—like many, though not all, liberals—want the US to work with our allies, probably as their leader even, but we must work with them. My brother-in-law takes as gospel Limbaugh's straw man argument, in which he twists the very rational belief that having allies and working with them are good things, and turns it into: "Them lib-ruls want to take all the power away from the US and make us weak because they hate America!"

In the future, when you hear someone using a straw man fallacy to misrepresent your and liberals' beliefs, stop them. Don't defend against the attack, just point out how some eighth grade textbooks teach children that this is a horrible argumentative fallacy and ask your interlocutor to please stay on topic and not put words in your mouth. Again, liberals do this as well, but I have found that since liberals are as a rule (though not always) people who are seeking out truth, they are much less likely to use these faulty assaults. This constant search for truth is what causes the liberals in America to be less organized and less effective than the rightwingers in America. Our dedication to individualism and free-thinking and progress prevents us from simply repeating the propaganda of people like Ann Coulter and Rush Limbaugh.

Another common technique of the rightwing is outright lying. Coulter recently wrote an article against them lib-ruls who want civil unions for gays. She claimed that liberals were "doing what they always do"—namely, changing the word to confuse people. She said there is no difference between civil unions and marriage except the name and that liberals were trying to trick Americans. Hmmm. Civil unions are only recognized in the state that administers them, and not in any other state. This means that a civil union is valid in only 2% of the nation, whereas a marriage is valid in 100% of the nation. Now, I may be trying to confuse and mislead people when I say that I see a big difference between 2% and 100%; or, just maybe, Coulter was purposely misleading her readers in hopes that they wouldn't investigate the differences.

Liberals have been too nice and too eager to stay above these nasty and uncivilized attack fallacies, believing that people would see them for the trash they are. We cannot do that any longer. We must not stoop to the low level of the rightwing in America, no matter how tempting it is, but we must not just take these cheap blows either. We have learned to fight back, and we will, but we will not cheapen the high-minded tenets of democratic liberalism in the effort.

"How To Conduct Your S.G.A. Election!"

from your friends in the American Medial

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Step 1: Choose Front-Runner



WE'RE GOING TO THE GREEKS! WE'RE GOING TO THE B.B.S.A! YEEAAHHH!!

S.G.A NEEDS TO BE REBUILT FROM THE GROUND UP! IT'S TIME TO TAKE BACK UNCG... FOR THE STUDENTS!

Step 2: Destroy Front-Runner in Press

He can't win with such a negative campaign!

Um... what an overly enthusiastic madman!

Wash, Rinse, Repeat 'Til No One Gives a Damn...

http://clowrance.com

The Liz Phair Project



Token Vagina

Rae Marcus
Staff Writer

I tend to be more of an academic feminist; meaning I write columns, read books and journal articles, and go to seminars. I have a secret desire to be a grassroots activist, to lead wild protest marches or go on a hunger strike. To me, things are more personal on the grassroots level, when everyone is poor and full of venom. A few weeks ago, my incredible feminist friend Bunny mentioned that she'd always heard about Liz Phair, but never listened to any of her music. The next day, I brought her my well-worn copy of Phair's debut album "Exile in Guyville," a beautiful young-adult female tirade about gender, sexuality, and figuring out who you are. Bunny loved it. Suddenly, I had memories of being thirteen and making friends with a girl in my science class because I saw a copy of *Leaves of Grass* fall out of her backpack. That girl and I are still friends today and we still trade books with each other.

Part of the reason why I wanted Bunny to borrow my CD— and like it— was that, in a way, showing her this album was like showing her a piece of myself. When I was first learning about different movements of feminism and different ways of self-expression, *Exile in Guyville* was seminal in my development. Although I'm not at the same mind-

set now that I was then, the first few strains of "6'1" never fail to remind me of the kind of person I used to be and evoke memories of an important part of my life. That, more so than just the CD, was what I wanted to give to Bunny. I wanted to say, "this is a picture of me a few years ago, and I hope you can better understand me." My grandfather once gave my father a copy of *The Catcher in the Rye*. My grandfather was a pretty unemotional guy, and, for him, sharing that book with my dad was his more subtle way of saying, "this book is about what I used to be like when I was your age." There is something about art that speaks to people. Often, it's easier to tell your girlfriends which *Sex* and the City character you would be than to tell them how you feel about sexuality or relationships.

However, when Bunny returned the CD to me, we were spied by a classmate who mentioned she had always meant to check out Liz Phair. "Go ahead, borrow it," I told her. Now, the Liz Phair CD is onto the fifth person in my peripheral circle. Some of them didn't like it. Some of them consider it gospel. The point is that we now all have something in common. The point is that now we all have a link to each other, a common metaphor. One of the reasons I started a book club with some of my friends was because I value their viewpoints and opinions and it's interesting to hear how they read books that I connect with. Even if we don't all like it, we're all bringing our own interpretations into the conversation. By the end of a session, there are twelve different versions of

the same book.

Conversely, this idea works the other way too. There's this girl from my high school, who we'll call Sharon, who always drove me nuts. I recently found out that, by a strange twist of fate my friend Janet (who goes here) happens to know Sharon and also can't stand her. Now, I am vindicated in my dislike of Sharon. I don't feel like I am a horrible person for thinking Sharon is really annoying and too possessive of her boyfriend, because someone else agrees with me. Maybe, I think, I am not exaggerating after all. I have bonded with people over dislikes of everything from bad coffee to the band Simple Plan. Granted, this is not enough to make an entire friendship, but one of the basic problems with human interaction is that it's so hard to get a connection started. Once you're able to start a friendship, it's a lot easier to keep up momentum.

I kind of miss having the Liz Phair album in my collection, since it's been gone for more than a month, but I like to think that I am doing my part for grassroots feminism. I have to keep reminding myself that, for most people, feminism, or any kind of social activism, isn't in big actions. Little things— volunteering a few hours a week at a battered women's home, supporting a pro-feminist candidate, speaking up in class— are what change our social fabric as a whole, bit by bit. It's about more than Liz Phair. It's about finding a voice that speaks to you, and, sometimes, finding a friend who listens to the same voice.

The Enforcers of Political Correctness



Straight Shooting

Jason Crawford
Staff Writer

I have never met anyone that has never heard of the term "political correctness" (hereafter known as PC). I have also never met anyone that denied its existence, at least as a theoretical concept. Furthermore, everyone seems to agree that it is a bad thing, as I have never heard a politician or university administrator brag about having opinions that are "100% politically correct." Of course not everyone can agree on what should be tagged PC, but most people claim to know it when they see it. So while identifying PC may not be an exact science, the term— like all linguistic innovations— has persisted

in popular language because it communicates an idea that most everyone can understand and to which almost all of us can relate.

"Politically correct" began to appear in people's speech in a big way in the '90s, as moderates and conservatives sought to grapple with opinions, naming practices, and other cultural phenomena that elites were certifying as "sensitive." Operationally, this made the term more useful for conservatives, as liberals generally pride themselves on being sensitive and compassionate in their politics. Quite simply, the term "politically correct" just drips with a kind of disdain that most liberals spend their entire lives trying to suppress in their own inner psyches.

But as so often happens in ideological battles though, the other side has tried to corrupt the vocabulary of its opposition. As anyone that has watched Bill Maher knows, the show "Politically INCORRECT" had absolute-

ly nothing to do with identifying PC as most people understand it. Maher was a liberal on most issues and his warped concept of PC seemed to have something to do with beliefs about common decency. According to Maher then, dubbing something PC was just a new way to sneer at public morality— and contempt for that is something that many liberals seem to possess in limitless quantity. Tools for challenging PC therefore consisted of lewd jokes, vulgar language, and lots of abusive rhetoric aimed at the so-called "Religious Right." Maher's ridicule was targeted more at traditional morality than anything new in politics, and his show would have been more accurately labeled "Morally INCORRECT."

So where do we usually find real PC as it has come to be understood by the majority of people? Who is creating it? Who is enforcing it? Who decided that your last Christmas tree was a "holiday tree," or that foreign exchange students are now "international students?" Who do you have to answer to when you forget to call a retarded person "mentally disabled?" And most confusing of all, where can you safely stand on large issues in a world where yesterday's drunk street bum is today's random victim of homelessness?

Certainly much of this sensitivity rhetoric emanates from university campuses. If you want to understand who enforces it, read the passionate hate mail this column generates in the "Letters to the Editor" from week

to week. Sometimes readers write in with legitimate objections, but most often they are overheated rants from the kind of people that have way too many body piercings and do not believe in wearing deodorant. If the past is any indication, these guys will eventually discover RightGuard, and many of them will get jobs in the university bureaucracy.

But right now it is these people that are usually the ones calling me a "racist." They are usually liberal white kids from middle-class backgrounds that feel a kind of perverse moral superiority when they intentionally slur large segments of humanity for thinking differently from them. Most of these egotistical PC addicts have never even met me, much less actually familiarized themselves with my views on race. But this doesn't seem to matter to people that have the gall to call anyone that differs from them on an issue like the death penalty a racist. These racial demagogues shamelessly resort to name-calling in order to advance a pet cause that has nothing to do with helping minorities.

The ironic thing is that PC is usually just another form of arrogant intolerance. If you are willing to smear a classmate, a roommate, or a fellow student working for the campus newspaper just because he or she has a different opinion from yours, then at what point have you shown yourself superior? If you publicly accuse people of being a racist as often as McCarthy accused people of

being a communist then exactly what makes your brand of racial McCarthyism more innocent than the real thing?

A little over a year ago, I was invited to attend a dinner in Washington, D.C. that was held for conservative journalists working for campus newspapers. The consensus? Political correctness as defined by the far left is the greatest enemy to the free exchange of ideas that is supposed to take place on college campuses. It seeks to shame people with diverse opinions into silence. Newspaper columnists are the best suited to hold PC up to the scorn it usually deserves and that puts people like me on the front-line of fighting against it.

So all the PC maniacs out there that are making it their life's work to harass me into intellectual conformity will no doubt keep up the name-calling. Likewise I will fight even harder against the bland world they are attempting to create. I can put up with this as long as they continue to show the campus how intolerant they are of people with different opinions. We will see down the road which wins, freedom of speech or speech codes. And as far as I can tell, I'm the only one that's on the scoreboard.

We're right until you prove us wrong.
carolinianonline.com

Will Joseph be drafted?

Sporty Spice

Sam Clark
Sports Editor

After having a rather difficult season the Men's Basketball team finally enjoyed a night of celebration on Monday night. Their captain Jay Joseph scored 20 points in the 78-65 win against Western Carolina and created history by putting himself on top of the UNCG all-time scoring list.

The guard from North Wales, Pennsylvania is averaging a team leading 16.6 points a game, and has top scored for the Spartans in 12 out of the 25 games so far this year. Joseph has impressed so much in his tenure here at UNCG that there are mutterings around campus about a possible draft.

But is the prized Spartan capable of mixing it with the likes of Kobe Bryant, Vince Carter and Kevin Garnett? Does he have what's required to convert from UNCG to the NBA?

Statistics are usually a good area to start when evaluating a player's potential. Joseph is undoubtedly a scorer and has maintained an impressive shooting record throughout his career at Greensboro.

As a Spartan, Joseph has maintained a field goal percentage of 45% and has connected with 40% of his shots from behind the arc. The stats this year are slightly below his average due to the lack of another prominent outside threat on the team.

No one can argue that his shooting is not impressive but what will concern scouts is what else he contributes to the team's cause. Other than scoring, Joseph doesn't provide a great deal else. The fact he averages a little fewer than four rebounds and two assists a game further highlight areas that will need to be addressed.

Scout Response- Good shooter, but lacking in other departments, particularly the defensive end.

Other than plain stats the first guarantee an NBA coach needs when looking at possible recruits is the assurance that his man will do the job when the heat is on. This is a difficult one to evaluate simply because Joseph has rarely been put on the big stage in front of the cameras.

However, a match last year against, the then #2 Kansas gives the best insight as to how Joseph could deal with the pressure of the NBA. On that occasion he scored a career high 27 points (22 in the first half) while being guarded by All-American Kirk Hinrich. The game, which was broadcasted live on national television, gave Joseph his first opportunity to shine, and he did so emphatically.

Although his Kansas experience illustrated potential, Joseph had further opportunities to show what he could do last season against #3 Albany and the 2003 College Champions Syracuse. On both occasions Joseph struggled to get into double figures and looked a distant figure compared to the remarkable performance at Kansas.

Scout response- Obvious potential but unproven on the big stage.

Before investing in a possible draft, coaches have also got to be convinced that there recruits will stay clear of injury. Joseph has participated in every single game in the last four years and has started in all but one.

Scout Response- Joseph's proneness to injury will stand him in good stead and his passion to play is apparent with such a fantastic turnout.

It's sometimes easy to be critical of Joseph when watching him play and occasionally he doesn't seem as passionate as many other members of the squad. Coach Fran McCaffery made him leader of the team this year, and he has taken this extra responsibility and excelled.

A couple of weeks ago the Spartans

SPORTS

Coming Next Issue

Softball looks to build on its early season success

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Record breaking weekend

Joseph enters record books as top scoring Spartan of all time

Kathryn Kennedy
Staff Writer

Free throws were sunk, three-pointers were scored and records were broken this past Monday as the UNCG Men's Basketball team defeated the Western Carolina Catamounts 78-65.

Though his evening started slowly, scoring only three points in the first period, Jay Joseph succeeded in breaking the record for career points scored by raising his total to 1,585 during Monday night's game.

"It was exciting," said junior Ronnie Burrell. "I mean, I think we were more excited than he was."

While Joseph broke the record Burrell went on a march of his own, scoring 26 points while adding nine rebounds. It was the forwards third game in a row scoring over 20 points and his sixth 20 point effort of the season.

The attention couldn't be taken away from Joseph however who went 7-10 from the field in his 33 minutes of play.

"He's the kind of guy who wouldn't even think about a record," Coach Fran McCaffery said. "He probably didn't even know there was a record until the News and Record called him yesterday."

"It meant a lot, but I'm sure it will mean even more down the road. I'm not thinking about the record right now, I'm just enjoying our win tonight," said Joseph.

The former record of 1,574 points was set just last year by James Maye. Joseph only needed ten points to beat the record but instead doubled that amount, firing perfect shots throughout the second period. This helped secure the Spartans' win as well as his place in UNCG history.

The win also saw UNCG set a sea-

son-high in field goals, hitting 66% from the floor, which was also the fourth best percentage in school history.

"We got some easy baskets," Burrell said. "I think it was being aggressive too though. We worked hard in practices to become a more aggressive team."

McCaffery said that the zone defense worked well in containing Western's top player, Kevin Martin, who scored 13 points overall.

"I thought it would be closer," Joseph said. "But we kept playing, kept working hard defensively, trying to contain Martin."

Three days before the record breaking night on Monday the Spartans won a nail biting encounter at Georgia Southern 80-79. Burrell led all scorers with 27 points while Joseph added 20.

The Spartans led the game during the second half and went on a 16-7 run midway through the half to reach their biggest lead of the game 66-56.

However, the host began to fight back and scored 14 of the next 17 points to take a 70-69 lead with 2:50 remaining. UNCG replied by hitting seven-of-eight free throws down the stretch to put victory within sight.

A Jean Francois bucket from downtown with eight seconds left cut the lead to one and when Terry Williams stole the in bounds pass the Georgia Southern fans awaited the possibility of a dramatic last gasp victory.

Fortunately, for the Spartans their desperate defending didn't allow a shot and they held on for a well fought victory.

McCaffery said he was proud of his team's performance in the last two games but that the critical concept now is to develop consistency.

"We haven't played any better than this," McCaffery said. "But in the tournament, you have to win four games in four days. That's what we need to work for."

The Spartans are next in action against Elon on Saturday which will decide whether UNCG is ranked third or fourth for the Southern Conference, which starts on March 3rd in Charleston, SC.

Check out the Spartan Sports Roundup at

carolinianonline.com

had three of their top players suspended for the visit of Elon. The players suspended have made up the majority of the offense throughout the year and without them it seemed like there was no hope UNCG would score more than 40 points. Joseph had other ideas though, and when the team needed a hero he recorded a season-high 24 points, while leading his depleted side to a 13 point victory.

After the success all he could talk about were his team mates and how they had provided the foundation for this surprise victory. Although Joseph may not provide onlookers with the big high fives or attention getting, there is no doubt he respects his team

mates and has led them in an efficient and methodical manner this year.

When his coach Fran McCaffery was asked about how Joseph felt about the record he said "I'm surprised he even knew."

Scout Response- Quiet and composed on the court, will rarely lose his head and will serenely support team mates.

Although Joseph hasn't been applying his trade at the Dean Dome or the Cameron Indoor Stadium, he has provided spectators at the Fleming Gym with four years of memories. Hopefully a scout will ignore the inexperience and take a chance on a player who will strive to fulfill his enormous potential.



Record breaker Jay Joseph

UNCG SPORTS INFORMATION

Softball continues super start to the season

Jeni Hodges
Staff Writer

The UNCG softball squad won the 2004 Seahawk Classic, hosted by UNC-Wilmington this weekend and continued their impressive start to the season. The Spartans entered the tournament with an unbeaten 3-0 record and now sit at 8-1 for the season.

The Spartans took control of the tournament Sunday with two wins. Freshmen Adriane Audley's sacrifice hit to the outfield allowed junior Vanessa Massie to score, giving the Spartans the run they needed to defeat the tournament hosts 4-3 in the semi final game.

The championship game saw the Spartans beat St. Johns 4-3. Sophomore Kelly Allen was the offensive leader in the Championship game against St. Johns and capped a three-run first for UNC Greensboro with a two-run double as the Spartans opened the game with five straight hits.

Along with the championship UNCG also took home the tournament MVP thanks to the consistent performances of freshmen Vanessa Oakes. Oakes pitched a complete game with three strikeouts, eight hits, and three walks in the final.

In the first game of the classic against Winthrop on Friday the awe-

some pitching performance from sophomore Danielle Byrne proved to be key for the Spartans. Junior Lynsi Pierce finished the game allowing her to record her first career save while senior Jennifer Hubbard carried the team offensively going 3-for-4 and a total of three hits and two stolen bases. The final score was 5-3.

Pierce dominated the mound with 11 strikeouts in game two against Delaware State. Hubbard carried the team offensively with the help of Allen's two homeruns and three RBI's making the final score 6-1.

UNCG continued their fine form on day two against UMBC, which proved to be an offensive treat for spectators. Joni Gomez went 3-for-4 and scored two runs. Hubbard's one powerful hit drove in three runs. In the excitement Byrne recorded her first career homerun.

Pierce pitched six innings making the victory her third of the season. Oakes finished out the last inning of the game allowing her first career save. The Spartans took down UMBC 8-7.

The only disappointment for the Spartans came on day two with a loss to Wright State 4-0.

Look for another stellar performance from the Spartans when they play in Charleston Southern tournament, February 27-29.



TOURNAMENT MVP VANESSA OAKES

UNCG SPORTS INFORMATION

Baseball team starts season in confident manner

Kathryn Kennedy
Staff Writer

The UNCG baseball team started the season with a bang this past weekend, sweeping their three-game series against Fordham.

Sunday was the low-scoring game of the weekend, which ended 2-1 and featured impressive performances from pitchers Jarrett Santos and Nick Starnes. Starnes, in his first collegiate game, pitched the first four innings allowing only two hits with no runs, and no batters walked.

"I was a little nervous coming in, this being my first start," Starnes said. "The adrenaline was going. But I just want to keep throwing like I did today, maybe improve that breaking ball, but overall just keep playing like this or better."

Santos, a senior, finished out the game and allowed Fordham their only run in the eighth inning. He said that most of the success on Sunday was due to good defensive plays made by his teammates, but undoubtedly his skill made a difference as well.

"I come in during tight games, emergency situations," Santos said. "I'm more calm on the mound than most pitchers, so I'm good when the pressure is on. I do okay with that."

No runs were scored by either team until the sixth inning, when UNCG batted two runners in. The first was a double down the left-field line by Danny Valencia to bring in Jeremy Roulin. Valencia then crossed home thanks to a single by Ryan Galligan a few plays later.

Senior Ryan Gordon reached a personal landmark Sunday when he knocked his 200th career hit out to the Fordham shortstop. This is an accomplishment achieved by only five other Spartans.

"It felt good," Gordon said. "But honestly, I wasn't even thinking about the record until they announced it."

The one disappointment for the Spartans came when Center-fielder Jay Maule, who scored a total of six

runs throughout the Friday and Saturday games, was taken out in the fourth inning of Sunday's game after injuring himself sliding to first base.

On Saturday the team downed the Fordham Rams with an overwhelming victory of 13-3. During the second inning alone, the Spartans scored four runs of which three were RBIs by shortstop Ronnie Redic. He hit a triple to left center, allowing Roulin, Galligan, and Valencia to cross the plate. Redic then scored on a single by Maule.

Both Roulin and Redic stole bases during inning four to set up Redic for his second run of the game. The fifth inning was when UNCG made their move when six runs were scored in a series of hits that left Fordham pitcher Shaun Seales stunned. The Spartans continued progressing during the sixth and seven innings adding one run apiece.

Pitcher Jay Metzger aided the Spartans in their victory. He pitched five innings during which he allowed a meager three hits and no runs.

Saturday's game, though a blowout, allowed many non-starters to take the field and earn valuable game experience.

Friday, the initial match of the series, was also offensively driven. Ryan Gordon was two for two, both hits home runs out to left field. Jay Maule played well gaining four hits, each resulting in a run, out of five at-bats. Justin Crist and Jeremy Roulin and Chris Mason earned one run apiece.

Scooter Michael, Jarrett Santos, and Patrick Currin each pitched and together held Fordham batters to three runs.

Overall, Coach Mike Gaski said that the season couldn't have started better for the baseball team.

"Every series might not go as well as this one did," said Gaski. "But we're definitely going to come into every single game playing to win."

The Spartans return to action with a three game series against Lemoyne starting on February 28.

A tale of two halves

Stacey Gregory
Staff Writer

The UNCG Women's basketball team lost their final two regular season home games this week in the Fleming Gym, and dropped to 8-18 for the season. Monday's 70-54 loss to Chattanooga followed a 65-60 defeat at the hands of ETSU.

On Saturday, UNCG showed the inconsistencies that have plagued their season. After scoring an emphatic 21 points off Buccaneer turnovers in the first half the host could barely even compete in the second half.

The early exchanges saw UNCG use tough defense to restrict the visitors to 0-4 from the floor. Twice during the half the Buccaneers were scoreless for over four minutes. While at the other end, guards Amanda Eaton and Jasmine Byrd were ably supporting captain Jacinda Lambert.

With 3:31 remaining in the half UNCG held a 10-point lead. A three-point shot by ETSU's Kiya Verdell narrowed the lead to 35-28 at the half.

Then day turned into night. The Spartans who had been playing one of their best games of the season came out, lost their focus, and played one of their worst halves of the season.

"We were overanxious in the second half," said Coach Lynn Agee.

There was no sign of the demise

early in the second half as the host extended their lead up to 12 points with 14:02 remaining. However, they just could not hang onto the ball. The ETSU turnovers that had helped the Spartans in the first half were replaced by UNCG mistakes. ETSU scored 13 points off turnovers in the second half. Midway through the second half the host gave up the ball three times in the space of two minutes.

"When the game is on the line you can't make three straight mistakes and turnover three possessions and expect to try and win a ball game," said Agee.

Tiffani Mayes led the scoring for the Buccaneers with a career-high 24 points. Mayes was assisted by Brooke Wilhoit who played for the entire 40 minutes, grabbing a career-high eight rebounds.

For UNCG Lambert was the only player to perform with any credibility. Lambert is a senior who is one of only ten UNCG women's basketball players to score over 1000 points. With her 25 points on Saturday Lambert edged her way into fifth place with her second highest point's tally in her UNCG career.

There have been a couple of notable absentees in the scoring column this season. Excluding the points from Lambert, certain senior members of the squad have struggled over recent weeks.

While Lindsay Reed boasted an

efficient 5-6 from the field against ETSU, Agee believes there can still be improvements in the senior's game.

"I'm disappointed for Lindsay that she is not having the year she is capable of having," said Agee.

Another issue Saturday was Amanda Eaton's contribution. "We can't win a ball game if we don't have Amanda," said Agee. "For the last two weeks Amanda has not scored. She's frustrated with her shot."

The loss was not good preparation for the daunting visit of Chattanooga, who were boasting a 21 game win streak before Monday's game. With the confidence such an impressive season inspires, Chattanooga broke away with an early 12-4 lead and comfortably eased to victory to post a perfect 19-0 record in conference play.

"Currently we are not in any position to chase Chattanooga," said Agee.

Lindsay Reed led the Spartans with 12 points, shooting 5-5 from the field. But it wasn't enough. The Spartans could not sink a three-pointer throughout the game, going 0-10 from behind the arc. Freshmen, Jasmine Byrd, usually such a fluent shooter, was 0-8 from the field.

The ladies complete their regular season on February 27th in Spartanburg, SC, against Wofford.



Jay Maule hit two home runs on Friday.

SPARTAN SPORTS ROUND-UP

SPORTS INFORMATION

SPARTANBURG, SC – UNC Greensboro men's basketball player Ronnie Burrell was named the Southern Conference

Player of the Week by the conference office on Tuesday, February 24. The junior from Montclair, NJ, averaged 27.3 points and 10.0 rebounds per game on the week, while shooting 71.9% (23-of-32) from the floor and 87.2% (34-of-39) from the free throw line. He also hit both of his 3-point attempts.

Burrell scored a career-high 29 points and pulled down 12 rebounds against Appalachian State on February 17. In the game he was 7-of-11 from the field and hit 15-of-19 free throw attempts. His 15 free throws made and 19 attempted set a new school single-game record. In the 80-79 victory over

Georgia Southern, Burrell scored a game-high 27 points while hitting 8-of-11 of his attempts from the floor. He was a perfect 10-for-10 from the free throw line.

On February 23, Burrell led the Spartans with 26 points and nine rebounds in a 78-65 victory over Western Carolina. He connected on 8-of-10 shots from the field

and 9-of-10 from the free throw line.

On the season Burrell is averaging 15.5 points and 7.2 rebounds per game. He has scored 20 or more points seven times this season and has tallied five double-doubles. In conference play he is averaging a team-high 16.9 points and 7.7 rebounds.



Sports Calendar



Thursday 2/26	Friday 2/27	Saturday 2/28	Sunday 2/29	Monday 3/1	Tuesday 3/2	Wednesday 3/3
No events scheduled	Women's Softball (27-29), Charleston Southern: The Southern Conference Indoor Track & Field Championships (2/27-2/28) Women's Basketball at Wofford: 7 p.m.	Women's Tennis at Virginia: 2.30 p.m. Men's Baseball Vs. Lemoyne: 1 p.m. Men's Basketball Vs. Elon: 7 p.m.	Men's Baseball Vs. Lemoyne: 1 p.m.	Men's Baseball Vs. Lemoyne: 1 p.m.	Men's Baseball at UNC Wilmington Women's Tennis Vs. East Carolina: 2 p.m.	Mens and Women's Southern Conference Basketball Championships Women's Softball at UNC Charlotte: 2 p.m.

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Wrestlers march toward the conference tournament with renewed vigor

Aaron Snyder
Staff Writer

About a month ago, the Spartans wrestling season looked like it was going to be tainted with disappointment. After devastating losses to Southern Conference opponent Appalachian State, and ACC foe NC State, UNCG was desperate to resurrect their season. The following weekend the Spartans defeated Anderson College, and ACC rival UNC Chapel Hill to create some momentum.

"We are staying healthy, and I really think that the guys are starting to turn the corner technically," head coach Tom Shifflet said. "They are starting to find ways to win and that deals with them coming in and work extra, and it is starting to pay off for them."

Since the impressive wins, the upstart Spartans have not looked back and put themselves in the middle of the race for third place in the conference. Coming into the final weekend of the season, Shifflet's surging wrestlers needed one win over either VMI or the Citadel to secure a tie for third place in the conference.

In front of an unusually large and boisterous crowd, UNCG got off to a solid start. The match started with the Spartans top wrestler, junior Kevin Artis, avenging one of his rare losses this season, by defeating David Metzler by a 3-0 decision.

"It was very important match to get my confidence back, because I needed this match to make sure that I get a decent seed at conference," Artis said. "I know that I have to beat everyone to get to nationals, so I really needed this one to make sure that I get a decent seed."

However, the last match that the Spartans captured in the important dual, pitted freshmen Darren Burns against Jason Cox, in the 197 pound battle. In the battle between the two top wrestlers in the Southern Conference in their weight class, Burns upset Cox, to continue the Spartan surge.

Despite losing the last three matches, UNCG still earned a very impressive 21-13 victory. Other highlights of the match included yet another pin for junior Charles Jones who lately seems to pin almost every opponent that he encounters. Jones' pin fall victory was his third in his last four matches, and improved his record to 11-5 for the season.

There also was some confusion amongst the crowd during the heavyweight match pitting senior John Kimble, representing the Spartans, and his opponent Scott

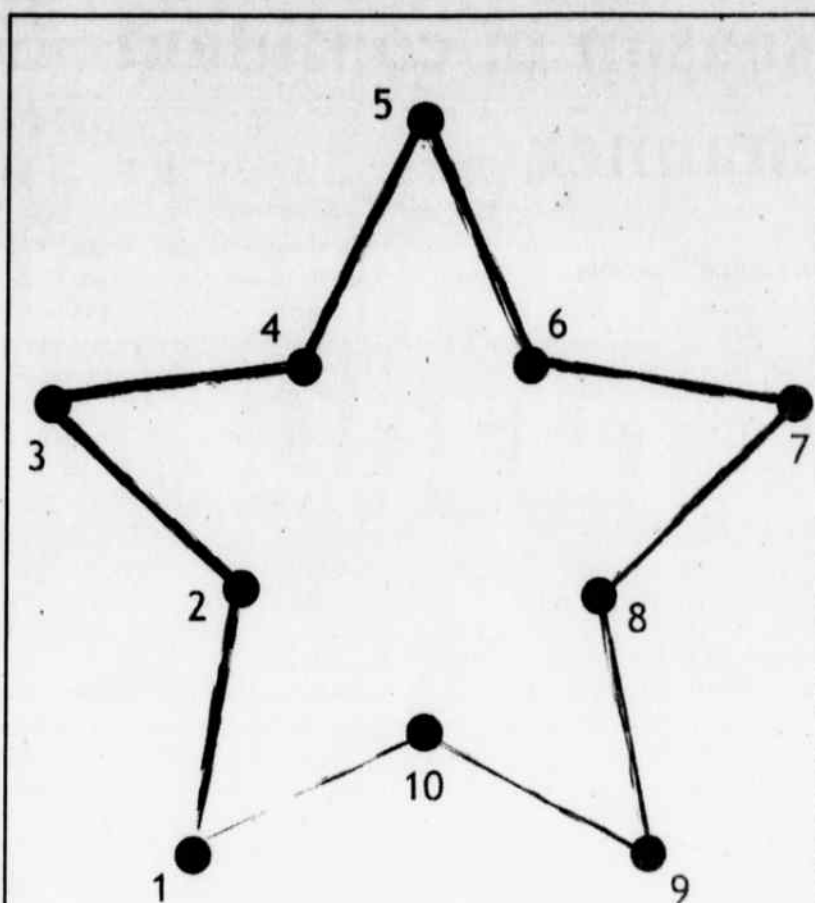
Buhman. The contest went into overtime, where Kimble recorded a take-down with four seconds to go in the final of the two 30 second periods. Eventually, after much dispute Kimble was adjudged to have lost the match, but luckily for the Spartans the decision proved to be academic as they had already taken the victory.

"Overall this match was big for us because there were some key matchups that down the road will determine first or second seed in the conference tournament" Shifflet said. "As far as confidence goes, it was huge for both Kevin and Darren heading into the conference tournament... Their hard work all season long really showed tonight."

The final meet for the Spartans was on Tuesday afternoon against the talented Citadel Bulldogs. Unlike the first match of the week, the match against the Bulldogs lacked excitement, emotion, and most of all, lacked a victory for the Spartans.

The most memorable moment the match against the Citadel was when seniors Kimble and Keith Ritter were honored before the meet. This was the last chance for them to perform in front of the home crowd. Ritter and Artis both won their contests as did freshman Joe Lowe. With his victory, Artis moved to within three wins of tying the most ever wins in one season by a Spartan wrestler.

"I have to hand it to those guys (John and Keith), a lot of times when you come into a situation when you have a coaching change it can be tough to regroup and learn the new ways of the coach," Shifflet said. "Those two guys stuck it out, and they have helped to rebuild this program."



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Community college fee hike called unfair

By Carrie Sturrock

Knight Ridder Newspapers (KRT)

The jobs Jessica Brockett landed after graduating from University of California, Davis in 2001 weren't fulfilling.

For \$12 an hour, she raised mice for diabetes studies, but they had to be destroyed when nobody bought them. In another, she punched numbers into a computer all day.

So despite her bachelor's degree in animal science and management, she returned to community college to become a nurse, using all her savings to do so.

Now California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger proposes charging students like Brockett who already have baccalaureate degrees \$50 per unit to cope with the state's fiscal crisis. By comparison, other students would pay \$26 a unit, up from \$18.

"I feel like \$50 a unit is unfair to those with advanced degrees when our economy isn't able to give a new college graduate a decent salary," said Brockett, who attends Los Medanos College in Pittsburg.

The governor's proposal isn't new. California charged those with bachelor's degrees \$50 a unit for three years beginning in 1993. The underlying premise was that most bachelor-degree holders who attended community college were doing so for personal enrichment - taking French for an upcoming trip to Europe or learning to rumba.

An extensive 1992 survey of students by the Los Rios Community College District found that 40 percent of the 1,500 respondents with baccalaureate degrees were unemployed or working part-time.

And once the fee was enacted, it seemed to limit access, a traditionally sacred idea in California's higher education system.

The first year the differential fee went into effect, roughly 50 percent of students holding baccalaureate degrees statewide dropped out,

according to a survey by the community college chancellor's office.

At Diablo Valley College in Pleasant Hill, the number of students holding bachelor's degrees dropped 51 percent to 1,714 between 1992 and 1993.

"The idea seems reasonable: When the resources of education seem limited, you want to give priority to people who (haven't had) a chance yet," said DVC President Mark Edelstein, who contends most of the people driven out were there for retraining. "They were housewives with a B.A. degree in art history and they found themselves as the sole provider of their family and they had to come back and get a degree in dental hygiene."

"To bring it back now shows a remarkably short memory."

Not all students think it's a bad idea. Sue Holland is enrolled in DVC's dental assistance program and believes the degree would be useful since she is marrying a dentist.

"I think it's reasonable - I've been through school," she said. "\$50 a unit is a lot less than I paid to go to college. I value education and there's a price to be paid for that."

Overall, community college stu-

dents do pay a much smaller proportion of the cost of their education than others in California's higher education system. They pay 10 percent while students at the University of California and California State University pay 29 percent and 20 percent respectively, according to the California Postsecondary Education Commission.

Debra Phelps, who teaches engineering and architectural graphics, thinks Schwarzenegger's proposal has some major flaws. For instance, it's easy for people with bachelor's degrees to lie and say they don't have them. The last time the state enacted the fee, the honest person paid it and the dishonest person did not, she said.

She wants the community college system to charge everyone \$50 and those who can't afford it should get a fee waiver.

"Just because someone has a bachelor's degree doesn't mean they can afford to pay for it," she said.

A fee increase would make it difficult for Gary Jury, 39, of Benicia to continue to afford nursing school at LMC. His wife, who teaches third grade, is the family's sole breadwinner at the moment. The couple has a 16-month-old child and mortgage payments on their house to think

about. Jury has a bachelor's degree in physiology from UC Davis but never found work that suited him or paid enough.

He likes taking care of people and figured nursing was a good career, considering the state has a severe nursing shortage.

"I'm totally against (the fee increase)," he said. "I don't think you should be penalized for going back and trying to do what you truly want

to do."

Brockett thinks there are better ways for the state to find the money, such as cigarette and alcohol taxes, especially when it comes to students like her and Jury.

"Because of the nursing shortage, I think nursing students should actually be given a fee reduction," she said. "I know that fixing the budget deficit is important but so is having enough nurses to provide safe care."

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Weekly horoscopes

By Linda C. Black
Tribune Media Services

Today's Birthday (Feb. 26). The "scientific method" is just a tool that you can use when Muses aren't whispering in your ear. Trust the latter above the former. Your greatest discoveries this year come along uncharted paths.

To get the advantage, check the day's rating: 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.

Aries (March 21-April 19) - Today is a 7 - Is money burning a hole in your pocket? Are you giving too much away? If it's for a good cause, use this as an excuse to take on an extra job. The more powerful you become, the more is requested of you. And it's fun.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) - Today is an 8 - You feel pressed by some promises made in the past. Take care of those obligations early so that you'll have time to play with your friends.

Gemini (May 21-June 21) - Today is a 5 - You may have to stop and think before you speak, and that's a good thing. Consider the listener's perspective carefully, and watch him or her for clues.

Cancer (June 22-July 22) - Today is a 7 - Someone you care deeply about is still being slightly aloof. It won't do any good to grovel. You're more attractive when you stay busy. Assist one who appreciates.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) - Today is a 6 - Concerns about money dampen your naturally cheerful attitude for a while. This is a temporary condition,

and it's good for you. Concentrate on making dough.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) - Today is an 8 - If you follow your heart, you'll wind up miles away from where you began. Your curiosity is liable to lead you far off the beaten path. Better pack a lunch.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) - Today is a 5 - Keep costs down. The challenge is to use your talent instead of your savings. You're inventing most of what you need anyway, so why not just invent it all? Use things you have around the house.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) - Today is an 8 - Your communication skills have just gone up a notch. You'll notice that the words will come quite easily for the next couple of weeks, especially where loved ones are concerned.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) - Today is a 6 - Focus on the task in front of you, and don't let yourself get distracted. Pour yourself into your bed tonight, exhausted but satisfied.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) - Today is a 9 - You could have a brilliant idea that helps you get over the top. Ask for a miracle; you're due. Follow your intuition.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) - Today is a 5 - There's more of value in your own back yard than you may have imagined. Improvements there will bring comfort in unexpected ways.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) - Today is a 9 - You learn best when you have a good tutor, a person you can trust to lead you in the right direction and ask the tough questions, making you think. Luckily, you now have such a tutor.

MBA no longer assures a prosperous journey

Katherine Yung
Dallas Morning News (KRT)

It was the educational status symbol of the 1990s, the must-have tool for climbing the corporate ladder.

For years, the MBA seemed like an automatic ticket to a six-figure salary, a pathway to a new career and a more prosperous life.

But that perception appears to be changing. Demand for master's degrees in business administration is falling for the second year in a row, report several MBA admissions directors across the country. At some business schools, the number of applications has slid as much as 25 percent or more.

Regard for the degree is so low that a FedEx television commercial even mocks it.

"You don't understand. I have an MBA," says Tom, a new employee who's asked to ship some deliveries using FedEx.com.

"Oh. You have an MBA. In that case, I'll have to show you how to do it," his supervisor replies.

"FedEx.com makes shipping so fast and easy even an MBA can do it," chimes in the voice-over narrator.

Three years into an economic recovery creating few jobs, the MBA no longer carries the cachet it used to. Going to business school - even the top ones - no longer leads to three or four job offers. Although corporate recruiting of MBA students has picked up, jobs are still scarce, and many recent graduates are struggling to find work.

When Mark Davidson entered Duke University's Fuqua School of Business in the fall of 1998, he had high expectations about what an MBA would do for him.

"I thought I would be walking with Dorothy and the Tin Man

down the Yellow Brick Road," he says. "I thought people would be knocking at my door."

Instead, the 31-year-old is living with his parents in San Diego and doing part-time contracting work in commercial real estate investment. He's been searching for a permanent job since being laid off 11 months ago from a property management company that didn't have enough work for him.

The grim job outlook has led many potential business school applicants to either give up the idea of earning an MBA or wait until the economy shows further improvement, admissions officials say. Others opt to take night classes while working full time. As a result, business schools are working harder than ever to market their programs.

"The applicants are not seeing the guaranteed job at the tail end," says Daniel Garza, director of domestic admissions at the University of Texas at Austin's McCombs School of Business. "It's making them hesitant."

Last year, a majority of the 289 graduate business school programs reported receiving fewer applications, according to a survey released in July from the Graduate Management Admission Council, a nonprofit organization of graduate business schools. This occurred despite some of the lowest interest rates for student loans in years.

The fall-off in applications appears to be continuing this year, several admissions directors report. At McCombs, the number of applications is down 26 percent. Garza noted that four other top business schools at state schools are not happy with the decline in applications. And they're experimenting with new ways to boost interest in their programs.

Duke University's Fuqua business school plans to start advertising its full-time MBA program because the number of applicants this year has shrunk, says Daniel Nagy, the school's associate dean. That's a change from previous years, when all Fuqua did was hold information sessions about the school and send e-mails to people who took the Graduate Management Admission Test.

At Southern Methodist University's Cox School of Business, where applications are off 10 percent so far this year, MBA students are reaching out to prospective applicants. In previous years, that type of personal contact was reserved for students who had already been admitted, said Marci Armstrong, Cox's associate dean of graduate programs.

And at the Mays Business School at Texas A&M University, admissions officers are promoting their school in new venues, such as career

fairs and professional conferences, rather than just at traditional MBA forums.

All of these efforts come amid increased scrutiny of the tangible benefits of an MBA. In September 2002, Jeffrey Pfeffer, a professor of organizational behavior at Stanford University's Graduate School of Business, co-authored a report that criticized the value of graduate business education.

"There is little evidence that mastery of the knowledge acquired in business schools enhances people's careers or that even attaining the MBA credential itself has much effect on graduates' salaries or career attainment," the report stated.

An MBA has little effect on graduates because of the rapid growth in the number of degree holders, the lack of minimum competency standards, grade inflation and the irrelevance of schools' curriculum to what is important for succeeding in business, concluded Pfeffer and Christina Ting Fong, now a professor at the University of Washington Business School.

MBA graduates who entered the workforce over the last several years are largely satisfied with the benefits their degrees have provided, according to surveys by the Graduate Management Admission Council.

At the University of Chicago's Graduate School of Business, Don Martin, associate dean of admissions and financial aid, acknowledges that "ultimate success in life is not dependent on an educational degree."

But, he says, feedback from graduates of his school reveals that the learning experience changes their lives forever. It gives them more confidence and the preparation to do what they want in life, he adds.

For now, recent MBA graduates such as Mark Pruett dream of being able to say that. The 31-year-old graduated in December from the School of Management at the University of Texas at Dallas.

Pruett had hoped an MBA would allow him to switch careers. Before business school, he had worked as a programming analyst at a manufacturing company. Now he's looking for a job in information technology strategy and planning.

So far, he's only heard from headhunters trying to recruit him to do the type of work he did before entering business school. And at graduation, no one in his class of about 40 - not even the best students - had a job.

"It's discouraging," says Pruett, who is taking evening classes at UTD to get another master's degree - in information technology management and consulting. The job market "has not been what I had hoped, but I'm



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