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The Carolinian

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TUESDAY, JANUARY 31, 2006

Campus Politics: College Republicans and Libertarians vs. College Democrats

Shina Neo
Staff Writer

At UNCG, where is the line drawn between discrimination and free speech?

Recently the College Republicans and College Libertarians sent a letter to the administration regarding the student organization non-discrimination policy, appealing for the right to discriminate and differentiate on the basis of political stance and religious affiliation. The letter's proposed changes would allow the Republicans and Libertarians to refuse any person of another political affiliation who wanted to join their club.

Patrick Tutwiler, president of the College Democrats, found this letter to be ridiculous as he and the rest of the Democrats have no reservations about allowing a member of the Republicans or Libertarians to join their meetings. Tutwiler amused fellow Democrats in a meeting

Thursday night declaring, "I'm not worried about socialists taking over the club."

Organizations and clubs maintain a right to dismiss anyone who works against them. The changes proposed by the letter would override this provision by not allowing a Republican to join the Democrats or vice versa, whether or not they might be good and productive for the group. As such, Tutwiler did not sign this letter.

The controversy lies in the fine line between the right to express oneself freely and discrimination. The

non-discrimination policy at UNCG states its commitment to "equal opportunity." Every organization is obligated to abide by the non-discrimination policy, meaning they cannot discriminate against potential members based on political affiliation, religion, or other such qualities.

The university is a state-funded institution and a blurred message is given to other affiliate groups when College Republicans, Democrats, and Libertarians choose not to work in accordance with the rules and regulations set by UNCG.

College Republicans and College Democrats have been head to head on many issues, one of them being the recent letter addressed to the administration. Does one's political stance and religious affiliation make such an impact that it necessitates discrimination against others with different views?

On February 9th, the College Republicans and Democrats will have a debate addressing issues of the legitimacy of stem cell research, abortion, and the right to die.



KAREN CORE/UNCG HUMAN RESOURCE SERVICES

Just one of the many sites of devastation in Biloxi that UNCG students helped clear - a catastrophe of such proportions leaving residents so bewildered that they were asking themselves what could have caused it.

Katrina did her best to destroy, but students from UNCG joined the fight back

Allison Carroll
Staff Writer

On Dec. 16, 2005 a group of UNCG students, faculty, and staff drove to Biloxi, Mississippi where they contributed to Hurricane Katrina relief by gutting houses, removing mold, and cleaning up a local park.

The trip began early on a Friday morning as the team embarked on their fifteen hour journey to Biloxi. Upon their arrival, the horrifying numbers they had seen on television, such as the 236,000 people without power, finally had a face. They witnessed remnants of houses, stores, and other local businesses destroyed by Hurricane Katrina.

The group consisted of 14 undergraduate students: Anina Aaron, Sarah Banks, Charles Bowen, Dakia Davis, Faith Estes, Lindsay Hackett, Jim Hooper, Donald Hughes, Latoya Jordan, Jaynie Langlais, JeVara McNair, Amanda Pettiford, Stuart Smith, and Brittany Tollerton; three graduate students: Winsora Blanford, Ashley Saunders, Peggy VanDyane; five UNCG staff members: Kristen Christman, Karen Core, Carol Reed, Laurie Weaver, and Beth Smith; and one UNCG faculty member, Rick Reitzug.

Their days began early at 6 a.m., and then they headed off to breakfast

Upcoming Elections - vote in your new Vice President

Elliot Laffey
Staff Writer

A vacancy was fashioned for Student Government vice president when the President resigned her position earlier this year, leaving the vice presidential seat up for grabs in the upcoming election.

Sandy Dempsey has been sworn in as president for the remainder of the Spring 2006 semester. Donald Hughes, chairman pro tempore of the Student Senate, is the acting vice president. However, the student body constitution allowed room for interpretation for the vice president's permanent replacement.

The constitution states, "If the Vice President is removed or resigns, the Chairman Pro Tempore of the Senate shall replace him or her. In this event, the Chairman Pro Tempore shall become the Vice President until the newly

elected Vice President is sworn in."

One interpretation insisted that the elected vice president would be inaugurated at the end of the semester, along with other elected officials, while Hughes remained vice president for the remainder of the semester.

This argument, though, was put to rest by Attorney General Shilanka Lewis at the Student Senate meeting on Jan. 24. Her official interpretation, which presides over other opinions, held that the new vice president shall take office immediately, upon completion of two parliamentary workshops with the sitting parliament.

A loose restriction, the elected candidate decides when to attend the workshops. His inauguration could be as soon as two weeks from the date of elections, which will be held Feb. 26, 27, and 28 online at UNCGenie. He would serve the remaining semester and the next

school year.

Campaigning for all offices was slated to begin Feb. 1. Student government officials are currently reviewing this date. No decision has been made at this time. (For more information, go to: <http://sga.uncg.edu>.)

Donald Hughes will be campaigning for his permanent seat, along with Matt Hill, Dan Fischer, Lehee Shmueli, and Thomas DiStefano.

Sandy Dempsey, though nominated, will be graduating - "Fingers crossed," she said, at the end of the spring semester. Her presidency, although short-lived, will be up for grabs in the upcoming campaign. Inauguration will be held April 18.

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THE EROGENOUS ZONE returns!

Brook Taylor is back, proving that no matter what orientation your relationship takes, we all play the same game.

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Classifieds

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Boloxi Blues Continued from page 1

at 7 a.m., followed by work for eight hours beginning at 8 a.m. The team was given a lunch break in the middle of the day, provided by Compassion Central, a local organization.

The first order of business for the team was cleaning up a local park through the Hands-on-Network. After rejuvenating the park it was time to tackle the residential areas. This task required massive amounts of work, the team had to begin scrubbing all the mold down with wire brushes to remove the mold, followed by vacuuming the mold to remove it from the house. The next step was wiping everything down with a Clorox and water solution in order to disinfect the house. Once everything dried, the "mold busters" were able to paint the interior with a white sealant to inhibit further mold growth.

"Although the trip was physically and even emotionally draining, our group still had the ability to empathize with the victims and understand what they were going through," said Beth Smith.

One might think the victims of Katrina would have been angry and frustrated, you would be right, some

were, but the majority of victims the team encountered were optimistic and hopeful even though the only assistance they had received was from volunteers. Most of the victims just wanted someone to listen to what they had to say, due to the fact that they had not yet had a chance to share their story.

Rick Reitzug, the only faculty member to go on this trip, is the person whom after watching the Katrina disaster on television, decided to turn everyone's dream into a reality. Everyone involved felt compelled to do something to help the victims of Katrina but weren't sure what could be done to actually make a difference, and Reitzug put his dream into action. After asking Reitzug how he felt about the trip and he said,

"They were an amazing group. They gave me hope not only for the future, but for the present. I have been with this university for nine years and I have never been more proud to be associated with it."

Reitzug told a story about the day they finished the first house, he walked to a house down the street and went inside. The site was overwhelming, the refrigerator had been upended, there were dishes all over the floor and there were water lines reaching almost to ceiling.

A large portion of the people in Biloxi rented their houses, so when they returned to their homes they were ruined and some landlords chose not to repair them, and as a result, these people were left homeless.

"The few people my age I saw down there said they came back to nothing because they in fact rented their houses. They were upset that their houses were gone, but what upset them the most was a billboard sign for Imperial Casinos who has decided to develop down there. They were offended that this casino could afford to put up a billboard sign in the middle of all the rubble but they 'couldn't afford' to help clean this place up."

A special event was held on Thursday, January 28 at 8 p.m. in the Alumni House, all twenty-three participants showed up in support for their trip. A slide-show of pictures was presented beginning with the terrible conditions of Biloxi and the projects they undertook, ending with their finished products. Latoya Jordan started off the program with an emotional performance of a poem she wrote about the trip, there were also two videos made by Jim Hooper.

Some of the participants wanted to share their feelings and stories

about the trip with the audience.

"I returned from the trip with a newfound commitment for helping others," said Donald Hughes, one of the students who decided to speak. Another student speaker was Stuart Smith, he said,

"All of us shared a common goal: to help the victims." Smith also spoke of how at the end of the day when he expected everyone to be exhausted they still had tons energy and kept a really high morale, and one night even had a talent show.

There is another trip planned for spring break, this time going to New Orleans. The cost is \$200 per person, which covers van transportation from UNCG to the worksite, meals, and lodging. If you are interested go by the Office of Leadership and Service Learning located at 214 EUC and pick up a form and return it to the office by February 1.

Although this was a group of only twenty-three people, the impact they had on Biloxi was huge, they touched the lives of every person they met. A special thank you goes out to the twenty-three volunteers who spent a week down in Biloxi changing people's lives.



KAREN CORE/UNCG HUMAN RESOURCE SERVICES

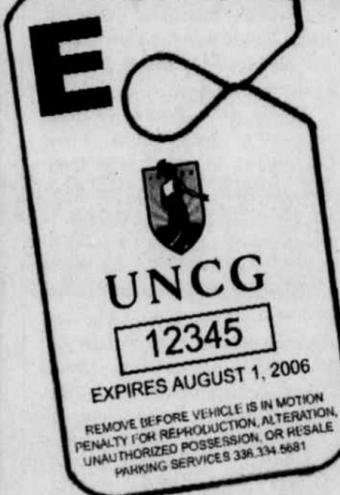
Some of the fourteen UNCG students, faculty and staff kitted out in protective attire - all set to go bustin' the Biloxi blues.

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lmjohns3@uncg.edu or (336)402-3852.



SARAH BANKS/THE CAROLINIAN

Yet another image of sheer devastation, a home in Biloxi hit by Hurricane Katrina, the site where many UNCG students, staff and faculty volunteered before the holidays with a week of their time.



KAREN CORE/UNCG HUMAN RESOURCE SERVICES

The UNCG Mold Removal Team hard at work on a Biloxi home, one of thousands that were hit hard by Katrina.

Dining Services Staff must have their hand held to shop

Tye Harris
Staff Writer

Recently the workers of the UNCG dining hall have been frustrated by restrictions on their shopping on campus, raising the question as to why they cannot spend their money exactly how they choose.

According to two Caf workers, they must have a manager present when purchasing items in the C-Store, located in the Atrium below the Caf.

Many workers are confused and wonder why they cannot purchase items on their own. They have been told this restriction is in affect due to recent theft in the store.

"It doesn't make a bit of sense. It's like we have a babysitter," said one worker when asked about the rule.

"To me it sounds like discrimination," said another Caf worker.

"It's OK for a student to shop, but not us," they added.

The workers were told they had to come by a managers' office before going to purchase anything in the C-Store. Some feel this is strange, and maybe unnecessary since the store has cameras in it. They are also not sure who is making this policy.

"They ask the 'big man', but he doesn't know either," commented one Caf worker.

The UNCG Caf, and other food services on campus, are owned by Aramark, a company based out of Philadelphia. Aramark, started in 1936, serves over 400 institutions of learning, as well as offering maintenance, grounds keeping, cus-

tomial and other services to 150 institutions. Aramark also provides other services for parks and resorts, school districts, correctional institutes, and so forth. Aramark provides uniforms and other apparel for the employees.

Recently The Carolinian received a letter to the editor concerning an incident involving a Caf worker and a fellow student. In the letter, the Caf employee questioned the motives of Aramark. Students often question policies of the Caf and other dining services on campus. Students at other universities question the inner workings of Aramark as well, holding strikes and filing complaints.

According to the Aramark website, they were voted by Fortune magazine as one of 'America's Most Admired Companies' in 2005, a 'Top 50 Employer for Minorities' as well as serving over 550,000 meals to hurricane evacuees in Houston and providing catering in Houston for the Olympic Games.

Either way, the logistics and opportunities for employees of the Caf are being questioned. No matter whose policy it is or who is calling the shots concerning the C-Store restriction, employees are confused and frustrated.

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ASSOCIATED
COLLEGIATE
PRESS

Letters to the Editor

MLK Award Coverage

On January 17, 2006 at the MLK program when Angela Davis was the speaker, the giving of the MLK award was heard by over a thousand plus people that stayed after Ms. Davis finished her speech. A lot stayed for the close of the program, to shake hands, hug, talk and get autographs of Ms. Davis and others.

Your article did not mention what an honor it was to speak before the speaker or to be the person to be able to introduce Ms. Davis, the name of the person presenting the award nor the person receiving the award. All are persons of UNCG staff and students who took it as an honor to be on the program with Ms. Davis. Ms. Davis is gone, and the students and staff members are still here.

Those that couldn't make it to the program need to know all facts of what a great program it was. From the ushers, choir, security, those that put the program together and all that had a hand in the making it a success, someone should be saying THANK YOU. I didn't get the newsletter. Is there an article on the program and the student that won the MLK service award in the newsletter?

Charles Robinson

This year's winner of the MLK Service Award was Rhonda Robinson, President of the Neo Black Society at UNCG. A complete program for the event is available on the website of the Office of Multicultural Affairs at: <http://maf.dept.uncg.edu/programs/opportunities/mlk.htm>. We apologize that this information was not included in our story.

Fostering negative politics

After reading the editorials and column in last week's paper, I was perplexed as to why so many people were angered over Melissa Westmoreland's opinions on the Angela Davis event on campus. As a Democrat, I admit that I questioned myself as to whether Angela Davis was really the best person to have speak for UNCG's Martin Luther King Day event. I am not overly concerned with what she did in her past, but rather with the tone of her arguments.

Too frequently the tone of political discourse in America today has become ultra negative and critical, and I feel that this is the position that Ms. Davis has chosen to take. Any political scientist will tell you that civic participation in America is very low amongst young people, and it will continue to be that way as long as public figures persist in filling people's minds with anger and negativity. If public figures truly want to change our country for the better, they should embrace the politics of hope and not division, and help instill direction and leadership in young people.

That I believe is the true legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King. To paraphrase Dr. King, "Everybody can be great because anybody can serve. You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love."

Matt Mabe

Dr. Angela Davis

I would like to comment on the Carolinian and its clearly biased articles pertaining to Dr. Angela Davis as the Keynote speaker for UNCG's annual MLK celebration. Whether or not the columnists in this newspaper agree or disagree with Dr. Angela Davis' views they should have enough respect for their readers to give them a complete and thorough examination of Professor Davis' life. Why haven't any of the columnists written anything about Professor Davis' educational achievements? Why haven't any of the columnists even referred to her as Doctor or Professor Davis in the first place?

The columnists in this newspaper are quick to bring up the fact that Dr. Davis was imprisoned but none of them let their readers know that she was imprisoned for 16 months without being charged for any crime, which in this country is unconstitutional. When the columnists in this newspaper write about Dr. Davis being imprisoned they fail to mention that she was acquitted by a jury of her peers. That means she was found not guilty of the crime she was charged with. Also I would like to know if it is a normal practice of the columnist of this newspaper to misquote and take peoples statements out of context. I understand that the columnists of the newspaper wish to get their points across but can they please not do it at the expense of journalistic integrity.

Akeya Hudson

Editor's Note: It was mentioned in Melissa Westmoreland's column as well as in our news coverage of the event that Dr. Davis was acquitted of all charges.

Corrections

In last week's article "Charges against on-campus student protestors dropped by UNCG," the caption for the photo of Allison Jaynes and Rob Sinnott on page 2 incorrectly states that Jaynes and Sinnott were arrested. This is false; UNCG officials charged the students with violating school policy. They were not arrested, and charges were later dropped. The Carolinian apologizes for this error, and any resulting confusion.

In last week's "VH1's Best Week Ever to Film at UNCG," Curtis Tarver, Assistant Director for Programs in OSL, was listed as a student. Also, VH1's program will not be taping, but instead, will be giving a live performance with the show's comedians. Lou Rawls was not brought to UNCG by CAB as also stated by the article.

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

Editorial Policy

Letters may be submitted to:
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Email: the_carolinian@hotmail.com Online: www.carolinianonline.com
Letters submitted by 5p.m. Wednesday will run in next Tuesday's edition. Word limit is 250 for letters, 550 for guest columns. Submissions may be edited for length. **NO UNSIGNED SUBMISSIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED FOR PUBLICATION.** All submissions come under possession of The Carolinian. The views expressed in the Opinions section of The Carolinian do not represent the views of The Carolinian or its staff unless stated.

The Carolinian continues to receive letters about Dr. Angela Davis. Though we do not have room to print them all, select ones can be read on the Carolinian's website at www.carolinianonline.com. While you're there, submit a letter of your own!

Please welcome our new Opinions Editor Luke McIntyre!
Luke will be taking over the Opinions section next week.

Luke also writes for the Life section and A&E.

Black Panthers and Dr. King pushed U.S. to fulfill its social contract

Guest column

Patrick Tutwiler
Special to The Carolinian

Melissa Westmoreland's myopic and simplistic comments about Angela Davis and the Black Panthers only expose the fact that she has no real appreciation for the Civil Rights movement or for the history of black Americans. The Black Panthers believed, above all, in using education as a weapon. They believed that blacks in the 20th century, much like their enslaved ancestors, were being kept ignorant and poor as a means to keep them pacified and politically weak. In their minds, the American government was content to let black America atrophy and suffocate under the weight of its own poverty. They organized in an attempt at self-education, in the spirit of communal aid and black solidarity.

John Locke tells us that when a government cannot, or will not serve the needs of its people, the people have a right to rise up and form a new government. It's called the Social Contract. The Black Panthers didn't believe the US government was fulfilling its end of the contract. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. agreed.

It is precisely because Dr. King and the Black Panthers, in their own ways, were so successful in unifying, educating, and politicizing black people that they were considered

such a threat by the FBI. The Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee and the Black Panthers, though split on tactics, agreed on the problem. Joe Killian was right in reminding us all that Dr. King was no friend to the American government. In fact he and the Black Panthers, and Malcolm X and Louis Farrakhan for that matter, all challenged the legitimacy of a government which in so many ways has let down, and continues to let down its black citizens. In that respect Angela Davis is more than qualified to praise Dr. King and to skewer President Bush.

Melissa's pale, pale politics may keep her from seeing the ugly truths about American history just as they enable George Bush to whitewash over the painful inequities that still exist; but I want to assure every black student here on campus, not all white folk are so blind.

Patrick Tutwiler is President of the College Democrats of UNC-G.

For more letters regarding Dr. Angela Davis, log on to www.carolinianonline.com.

Fighting the good fight

"It seems that every facet of our university reviews and renews itself except the most important ones."



Failure to Communicate

Luke McIntyre
Opinions Editor

It goes without saying that the UNC system, lately, has seen better days. Bad press is raining down from all sides over violations of student rights. Much of it comes from the Pope Center report admonishing our university for its policy on "disrespect" and its "Anti-Discrimination statement" that forces political groups to accept members of any political affiliation. Both of these policies are unconstitutional according to the Pope Center, and of course the Constitution. The Associated Press picked up on our free speech zone controversy, as did local papers and, ahem, various college papers.

But it's important to distinguish that this is only where the press is coming from. Our current policy change concerning the free speech zones and the "Anti-Discrimination statement" is coming directly from the actions of motivated and concerned students. The free speech zone policy, officially, is being reviewed because of a 4th Circuit Court decision last September, but we can't exclude the College Libertarians' willingness to throw themselves into the lion's den and have charges brought against them. The 4th Circuit Court case itself hap-

pened because of student involvement.

Then there's the "Anti-Discrimination statement." Recently, a letter from the College Republicans and College Libertarians requesting a change in the policy, and threatening suit if it didn't happen, was answered by University Counsel Skip Capone. He said that because of a temporary injunction against UNC-Chapel Hill the change was already in motion. Now, granted I don't know the ins and outs of the bureaucratic beast that is university administration, but that injunction happened in March of 2005. If the free speech zone committee was up and running in less than a month, why is it taking slightly less than a year to reword a policy? There are no decisions to be made here. The judge said what needed to be done; UNC has already shown us an example. I'm typing this column out right now; I could fix the problem. Cut and paste, no lawsuit.

Even so, the wheels are in motion and the problems are at least in some form of a process of being solved, right? Not in the slightest. The real problem throughout the UNC system is that students and outside organizations even need to be involved in something like this. Students come to college to learn, they shouldn't have to fight for their rights while doing it.

It's the university's responsibility as a marketplace of free ideas to review its policies, to ensure that freedom is promoted, and to do so transparently. Nobody at UNCG

even knows why we have free speech zones or when they actually came about. Not a single document details this.

Each year every department on campus examines its classes, department layouts, and teacher evaluations. Professors rewrite syllabi and require the newest versions textbooks. It seems that every facet of our university reviews and renews itself except the most important ones - the ones that determine what freedoms we will be allowed this semester. Our particular university seems to wait until some other college has lost a lawsuit rather than simply amending our current policy according to the United States Constitution.

The actual change we see is the work of a few dedicated students, who put themselves out for all our benefit. Getting exposure through the press is important, but not nearly as important as having committed souls wielding pens and poster board, not yielding one damn inch. And when they're gone the next academic building or new dorm will be named after our most generous donor. Their only remains will be the freedom that UNCG students will enjoy, the freedom we should have had all along.

Luke McIntyre is Opinions Editor of The Carolinian. You can log on to Luke's blog at www.livejournal.com/~luke_mcintyre.

Graffiti Ads LLC caves to perceived prejudice

We're talking about a business whose policy is to ignore the mention of homosexuality because they think they'd make less money.



OUT OF MY HEAD

Joe Killian
Life Editor

For decades my grandmother ran a bar in Greenport, Long Island - a small, blue-collar fishing town. It was nothing fancy - just a place where fishermen and locals drank beer and whiskey and had the occasional burger. It was the sort of place where, like the song says, everybody knows your name.

And then, in the 1960s, things began to change.

Suddenly, as if from nowhere, there were black and Hispanic faces in the crowd - and they seemed to think you had to serve them right alongside the white folks. Predictably, this caused more than a few fights in more than a few bars. But Alice never let anyone hassle her customers - whatever the color of their skin. When some angry white guy would ask her to chase out the niggers and spics before it became "that kind of bar" she told them it was her place - and if they didn't like it, they could spend their money elsewhere. It wasn't a popular policy - and it lost her some business, to be sure - but she wasn't going to let morons with money turn her into the sort of person she hated.

She was a tough, crafty old broad - all Greek savvy and Irish temper, with a baseball bat behind the bar for guys who thought they could push her around. She ran her business according to her own principles and no amount of ignorance - or the cash it walked in with - could change that.

I was reminded of Alice this week, when a Winston-Salem ad company, Graffiti Ads LLC, rejected an ad from Alternative Resources of the Triad, an area gay and lesbian group, as "too controversial" for placement in area bars and restaurants.

The ad, a plain black square with a computer mouse, directed people to www.OutGreensboro.com, where they can get information about "Greensboro Out at the Movies" - a monthly event where college-aged gay and lesbian kids get together to see movies like the recent hit "Brokeback Mountain."

The ad featured no political content, no racy images or offensive language - so, naturally, Alternative Resources asked what the problem was. The company replied, by e-mail, that it's their policy not to take on ads that might prove controversial - and the subject matter itself, a public gay and lesbian event, crossed that line.

Enraged by the reply, UNCG student Matt Hill, who sits on the Alternative Resources board of directors, posted the correspondence on his weblog. The story caught fire in the tight-knit Greensboro blogosphere and, after gay business owners in the area were made aware of the policy through blogs and e-mail, some (including the owner of the Biltmore Hotel) began e-mailing Graffiti Ads to let them know they wouldn't do business with them.

In reaction a Graffiti Ads employee, Daniel Zimmer, wrote a letter to various bloggers explaining that he is gay and his employers certainly aren't homophobes. But they are worried homophobic people would be offended by the ad - and that might harm their business.

As Zimmer wrote:

"Some people, who are ignorant

and homophobic, may go to the website, not fully understanding what it is, and then be offended that it's a 'gay' site."

So, we came to understand, the decision wasn't about homophobia - it was about cowardice. We're talking about a business whose policy is to ignore the mention of homosexuality not because they oppose it on principle but because they think they'd make less money if people who ARE homophobic saw this advertisement above a urinal at their favorite restaurant. In a way I think it would be more ethically defensible if they simply thought homosexuality was

an abomination and wouldn't support groups like this for that reason. But covering from something as benign as a gay movie night, in defiance of their own principles, because it might hurt the bottom line? That's truly shameful.

Zimmer goes on to say that if the company was asked to promote a similar event for a Christian group it would also reject them as "too controversial" - something with which he thinks those angry about the policy will agree. But I don't find denying service to a group based on religious conviction any less offensive than discrimination based on sexuality.

A major cornerstone of the civil rights movement was the demand that businesses rise above "controversy" created by the small minded to stand on principle and treat all people with dignity. My grandmother got the message. Forty years later it's time for other business owners to get on board.

Joe Killian's column, *Out of My Head*, is in its fourth year. His writing can be found online at <http://joekillian.blogspot.com> and in *Greensboro's News & Record*.



During times of uncertainty, how will you choose to live your life?



Left Turn Only

Garon Anders
Staff Writer

I have admitted in my column before that I am a news addict. For the most part, I believe in reading the news online via Yahoo, Google, and CNN. Recently, I have become increasingly aware of how distressing the news is. Psychologists often advise patients who suffer from anxiety to refrain from reading or watching the news. It is sage advice in these troubling times. My addiction to the news has led to something akin to Sartrean angst. There is a certain fear of the unknown, questions that cannot be answered, and major problems that have no apparent resolution. As this trend has become more apparent to me, I have begun to wonder about the collective psyche of our school and even our nation. I have asked myself the question, "Is this something which we are destined to accept and live with or is there a way around what Jean Paul Sartre described as 'nausea'?"

There have been three leading stories in the news over the past few months. The first is the near-constant struggle for power between the Democrats and Republicans. For most of us, this is a battle that we have learned to accept as being inevitable. As long as our democracy is based in a multi-party system, then the battle will continue. Though the political power struggle is as old as our democracy, recent times have led to a more passionate debate. Although Clintonian healthcare

reform was certainly an important issue, it did not seem to carry the same gravity that the current war in Iraq does.

Our political system faces an ever-increasing budget deficit. During the 1990's, America experienced unprecedented economic growth. This has now changed as our federal and state monies are being shifted to fund a terribly expensive war in Iraq and a war on terrorism. The dot-com era was filled with economic and technological optimism. Since the dot-com bust, this is no longer the case.

Another leading story is the war in Iraq. More and more, Americans are beginning to question our presence in the country. People are genuinely asking themselves, "Did our government mislead us?" and "Are the Iraqi people better off since the fall of Saddam Hussein?" Although I have strong feelings about both questions, I believe the verdict is still out for the American populace. Nonetheless, these questions are being asked. The war in Iraq has led to another question that seems to lack a definitive answer...does our government have an exit strategy and what will be the result when we implement it?

Iran's interest in nuclear proliferation has also caused a great deal of concern in international forums. Like the gift of fire given to humans by Prometheus, nuclear development of any kind - domestic or military - carries with it a great amount of responsibility. Can the United States, the UN, or the EU trust a state like Iran with a nuclear research and development program? The greatest cause for concern with respect to this situation stems from Iran's rogue presidential leader, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad. It may be a bit hasty

to refer to Ahmadinejad as a rogue. However, recent anti-Semitic statements have given credence to the belief that Ahmadinejad is not necessarily a "constructive-engagement" kind of guy.

So, in these times of uncertainty, it appears that we have three possible solutions. We remove ourselves from society and live as hermits. Seeing as that no man is an island unto himself, we can dispense rather quickly with this option. Who wants to live as a hermit anyhow?

The second option is to follow your psychologist's advice, turn off the news, and live a life of obliviousness. Here is a viable option. The question that arises is, "How can one live unaware of current events and remain a contributing member to society? Can you work for change when you are ignorant to the things going on around you?"

The final solution is to simply accept the angst, frustration, and the absurdity of the world in which we live, remain informed, and do your best to make a difference. This is a daunting task and one that does not come with instant rewards. For the time being, I have chosen the third of these options.

Yes, it remains difficult to watch the news and see anti-American protests abroad and worry about the fate of Jill Carroll. However, there is a sense of gratification that comes with knowing our democracy continues to function, prisoners do get released, and wars do end. How are you going to choose to live your life?

You can email Garon at uncgaron@gmail.com.

WWW.CAROLINIANONLINE.COM

Refuting accusations of racism



The Right Angle

Melissa Westmoreland
Staff Writer

I have come to realize that my last column has generated a great deal of controversy, and I would like to take this time, if I may, to explain myself in greater detail.

I have been approached by several students in the last week saying that they found the views expressed in my previous column to be racist. I would like to apologize to anyone who took them in that way. My column was not intended to be racist, and had I known it would be taken that way, I would not have written it. My overall objective was to express my disapproval with Angela Davis as the school's choice for a MLK Day speaker. It was my opinion that a more fitting speaker could have been chosen, and I stand by that opinion.

I have received a lot of emails asking me what I meant specifically when I used the word "sheep" in my last column. A lot of students took that to mean that I was referring to the entire audience, which was predominantly African-American. I was actually referring to the many people who seemed to be deeply engrossed in the socialist propaganda that had been handed out at the entrance to the event. I apologize profusely to anyone who thought I was making a racist comment with that statement. I tend to use the word "sheep" to rep-

resent anyone who adheres to the socialist ideals, whether they be white, black, or purple with yellow polka dots, and I saw audience members of ALL backgrounds reading the newsletter.

Some people have also accused me of saying that racism is not a problem in America today. On the contrary, I realize that racism IS a problem in America, but I feel that Angela Davis used that racism to promote socialism. The race issue is a touchy one, and I don't know for sure if it will ever be solved, but I do not think that socialism would eradicate racism, as I think Davis tried to imply.

The reason I felt the need to write out this apology is because I know I would not want to feel that my race or gender had been targeted by a student columnist. As a woman, I myself am from a historically disadvantaged group, and if a male columnist had made statements that I found to be sexist, I'm sure I would be angry as well as hurt. I never wanted to put anyone through that, and I'm very sorry if I did.

You can check out Melissa's blog at www.livejournal.com/~thatpoliscin-erd.

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Thrash and Electro-Pop Make For A Good Show Afterall

A review of local show

Sue Edberg
Staff Writer

Thursday night equaled a classic show at the White House at 1300 West Market St. Aside from the usual front yard drama, everyone who attended had their ass handed to them by the four bands that played; bands that covered such genres as beautiful electronic indie pop and progressive thrash metal.

The show took place out of the White House's quaint living room, filled with tables full of fun zines, merch, books from an info shop in Raleigh, and a kid named Chris Caraway trying to sell records to pay for his stolen bike. Darts were also being thrown pre-show, but this didn't pose a threat to the gathering crowd.

Based out of Raleigh, NC, the first band was The Sibling Project, who are Lindsey and Danny Ranck (yes, they're actually siblings), with the occasional inclusion of a third member to play the xylophone on some songs. Lindsey worked the synthesizer/keyboard while her brother played guitar. Both sing and their combined voices had a most captivating and lulling effect. Lindsey's voice was so exceptionally beautiful and resonant that it was hard to believe that it was actually coming from someone standing right in front of you.

Girl/guy harmonies, staggered layering, and same-note overlapping made for the best vocals of the night. And this wasn't only because their vocals were the only band's whose you could hear; if you weren't a part of the front row of the crowd singing along to their clever-cutesy lyrics, you sure wished you were. The synthesizer and electronic beats (the kind you can do that double clap thing to) are comparable to The Postal Service. This opening act determined the element of diversity for the show, and even a slight crowd shift later on. One can easily find them on myspace.com, so you need not be insulted with a web address to check out their easy-to-adore tunes. This band could certainly be the next big semi-local thing to hit Greensboro. Mark your calendars for their show at Blur in Greensboro on March 16th. The next band was where the tone for the evening took a sudden turn for the darker, the heavier. Greensboro/Raleigh band Wolverines played with drums and one guitar. They are a classic post hardcore screamy emo-rock basement band that the grandpa's shrunken sweater rockers love to nod the hell out of their heads to. A Caught in the Fall and Robots Don't Cry influence, definitely. Though their vocals were described by audience members as "compelling" and they were noted to have interesting tempo changes in their rhythm-based scheme, the crowd was disappointed with their indecipherable vocals, which were due to a muted sound from the small PA.

The Wolverines were described as "controlled rock" by UNCG student Chris Ledbetter, later noting their metal sound as well. Kile Dunn noted that he could hear Hella and Lightning Bolt similarities.

"Their heart was in the right place, but they need to tighten their lug nuts and get a bassist. You have to be doing something special to have a band with two people. A band like Des Ark, they can pull it off," said UNCG student Rob Sinnott. Perhaps The Sibling Project fits the criteria of a two person band "doing something special".

Wasteland, on tour from Amherst in Western Massachusetts, is a punk/hardcore/thrash band that followed up Wolverines. The energy stepped up a notch and the front few rows of the living room crowd were hugging onto each other's shoulders

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Performers, Marsha Paulodon, Todd Fisher, and Alex Lieberman (L to R) rehearse *Koun Kukki: The Legend of Hamachi and Unagi* for The Greensboro Fringe Festival.

The Greensboro Fringe Fest: Back and Abstract

The Fourth Annual Greensboro Fringe Festival is underway

Travis Diehl
Staff Writer, Photographer

Cake Dance. It's pretty strange-performers, with cake, dancing on a giant cake-shaped block of foam, while the audience eats cake. *Cake Dance*, darling of New Fringe night. It's a kind of trick, this acclamation, this combination of audiences, this tempering of modern dance for the public eye. It's an evening of off-the-wall, with a play tacked on. It's opening night for the Fringe Fest.

The Fourth Annual Greensboro Fringe Festival isn't out to topple the establishment. When the establishment is local theater, what would be the point? Instead, the Festival seeks to fill in the gaps. They're not competing. They're not outdoing. The Fringe performers sidestep the establishment entirely to present something entirely unseen. Hence, Nicole Laliberté and Julie Mulvihill's *Cake Dance*, and the dozens of other dance and theater works being premiered at this year's festival.

"We do have a lot of stuff that's just fucking off the wall," says Todd Fisher, co-founder of the Festival. Monday the 6th will see the Drag Queen Gospel Choir take the stage at The Scene on Elm. Fisher can offer no predictions. This Wednesday and the next, at Solaris, Michael Huie presents his Jack the Ripper theatrical opus, followed by the surf rock stylings of the Malamondos. It's okay. Have a drink. Smoke a cigarette indoors. This isn't exactly Broadway. "It's all very 'cutting edge,'" says Fisher. "--that is, 'fringe'."

These are acts that couldn't stand

alone. Even *Cake Dance* couldn't fill an auditorium at ten bucks a ticket. But throw it in there with a half-dozen other original local works, top it off with a one-act, and you've got a deal. The New Fringe audience witnesses a rarity: modern dance and theater in the same context. There's a difference in language, sure. But isn't it the same stage? The juxtaposition of a short play with dance illustrates the commonalities of performance--"theatricality, broken expectations, revelation of space, conflict." All good things. And, as Fisher further points out, "Everybody can dance." Just like everybody can sigh, and pace a stage, and sit down angrily on a couch. These are non-verbal metaphors. This is abstract communication. This is dance.

The Fringe Festival takes modern dance out of its art school sanctuary and into the cold, cruel world. It's a step centuries in the making. 350 years passed before suburbanites could take ballet lessons. Seventy-five years ago, Martha Graham decided to dance barefoot. In 2003, there was the Fringe Fest. "I mean, we're all here," says Fisher. Five college dance programs call Greensboro home. Fisher and many others involved have strong ties to UNCG. The Fringe actors, dancers, and writers see no reason to risk starvation in New York City. They'd just as soon stay put and continue to build their own scene upwards from this already fertile ground. The Festival is statewide for 2006, and Fisher sees no signs of recession.

The Festival dabbles in farce, but is not always to be taken lightly. Take Fisher's own piece, *Koun Kukki: The*



Alex Lieberman.

Legend of Hamachi and Unagi, premiering this weekend at the Broach Theater. The one act play tells the thinly-veiled allegorical tale of two out-of-work samurai sent to fight an unjust war. The playwright borrowed heavily from Japanese theatrical tradition. Says Fisher, "They would take the scandal of the day ... and two weeks later they would have a new one-act play." The piece, written with the Festival in mind, features a dragon, a demon god, and elusive weapons of mass destruction. Like all great satire, the play is a comedy loaded with deadly real-world themes. "I hope people get that," says Fisher, "while they're laughing their asses off."

So the Drag Queen Gospel Choir is a wild card, *Cake Dance* a proven success, and the nights of short plays a solid standby. Still to come is high school drama at Tate Street Coffeehouse, presented by students of Weaver Academy. Fisher remembers last year when these kids packed the house. "God bless 'em. You couldn't hear a thing they were saying, they were making so many cappuccinos."

The whole deal, after all, is about absurdity. It's about juxtaposition. And yes, it's about life, too. We're all the same--the cake eaters and the drag queens, the dancers and the actors, the fringe performers and the average-Joe theatergoers. Says the Fringe Festival with non-verbal, abstract gung-ho, we're all in this together. Might as well make it a show.

For show times, locations, and more information, visit www.greensborofringefestival.org.



Todd Fisher and Alex Lieberman (L to R).

New Fringe, Two Nights of New, "Fringe" Dance

A review

Alexandra Houston
Staff Writer

The Greensboro Fringe Festival kicked off its 4th year showcasing New Fringe Artists downtown at the Broach Theatre Jan. 26-27th. The show was a mix of dance and theatre featuring local artists. The Fringe festival is known for celebrating arts that are a little off center, quirky and outside of the mainstream. Friday night's performance served up just that along with little pieces of cake. The night opened with soloist Julie Boulton, performing choreographer

Heather Nabors's Good Feet, Long Hair and other words of wisdom. It was cutesy and gestural. Boulton spun around in her blue sundress, giving advice about life while moving. Twirling fingers and sniffing armpits; a fun opening for the evening.

Choreographer Christine Kiernan performed her original piece, Unfamiliar (seems strangely familiar), a slow exploration of discovery. The piece balanced tender and gentle against floppy wild bursts of energy. Kiernan hovered over and spliced through an internal investigation sup-

ported by beautiful music from The Rachels.

Cake Dance, performed by Julie Mulvihill and Nicole Laliberté, was the highlight of the evening. Dressed in pigtails and Pumas, with tiny skirts and tassels on their behinds, the dance was a breathy, vicious fight over a piece of cake. Filled with name calling, scraping, biting and hair pulling, I wondered if this should have been on pay per view. Their partnering was gutsy; a mixture of contact improvisation techniques and wrestling. While this violent display

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End of the Spear: Average Movie Offers Above Average Message

A review

Roger Priddy
Staff Writer

** (of 4), 108 Minutes, PG-13

Every movie critic must eventually face a daunting task; reviewing a movie that had aspects they personally liked very much, but a film at the same time they just didn't think was that great. *End of the Spear* is that movie for me.

End of the Spear is based on a riveting true story. It focuses on the Waodani tribe found in the eastern rainforest of Ecuador. The Waodani were part of one of the most violent societies the world has ever known. The Waodani literally lived and died by "the spear." For the tribe, life was sadly a choice between two alternatives: killing and living, or being killed and dying.

In 1956, five Christian missionaries traveled to the Amazon, on a mission to spread the good news of Jesus Christ to the Waodani. The missionaries hoped to lead the tribe away from its vicious cycle of violence. Unfortunately, the missionaries were just swept up into the violence, being brutally killed by the tribe. The sparing of the missionaries was famously documented by Life Magazine.

The missionaries' deaths were not the end, but only the beginning of the story. The missionaries' wives and children amazingly continued the work began by their husbands and fathers. Courageously, they went into the jungle and lived with the Waodani, facing violence head-on. Could the families forgive the people who killed their loved ones and defeat violence by leading the Waodani to a life of nonviolence? Miraculously, they did.

The true story behind *End of the Spear* is so poignant and powerful it's hard not to like the movie. It's such a beautiful story with such an inspiring message. It's filled with glorious hope and it's a rousing portrait of true courage. It's about sacrifice, it's about love; it's about going way over-and-above to help others and share your love with them. At its core is something so vital; the fight against violence and for peace. Unfortunately, I found most of the moving magic of the true events to be missing from the motion picture. I wanted to like *End of the Spear* so much. It offers such an above average message of forgiveness and understanding, but sadly, it's just an average movie.

The film is directed by Jim Hanon, whose only other credit is the documentary of the same story, *The Gates of Splendor*, released last year. *End of the Spear* is Hanon's first feature film, and you can tell it. Hanon shows glimpses of obvious talent; but the film tends to lose focus and be disconnected. It's a bit dry at times and it's too long. My strongest objection to the film is its emphasis and lack thereof. Powerful moments were underplayed and came across as weak. Parts that should have been subtle were over-the-top, and parts that should have been emphasized weren't emphasized enough. This unevenness left me feeling overwhelmed by what were very triumphant events.

End of the Spear has been criticized for being a "Christian film." That's a ludicrous criticism. If anything, as a Christian myself, I was disappointed by just how extremely underplayed the Christianity in this movie was. Hanon went to such painstaking efforts to make this a "mainstream" movie he loses the beautiful inner music and purpose of the incredible missionaries. "Narnia" was a fantasy, but its Christian elements were much more boldly and strongly presented than what's found in this true story. Sadly, we don't

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Gender Benders Are Crossing Over, Into Your Living Room

Joe Neumaier

The New York Daily News (KRT)

Sure, "Brokeback Mountain" is riding atop solid box office (even in red states) and is lassoing every award in sight.

But the real sex story du jour in American pop culture? Try transgender people: Women identifying as men, and men as women. In movies, at the bookstore and on TV, people are passing for the opposite sex. In many performance spaces, drag queens and drag kings reign supreme. And the very human stories they're telling are dragging people in.

In publicity photos for some projects, femininity and masculinity are a mascara smudge away from each other.

Felicity Huffman took a break from being a desperate housewife to play a he becoming a she in "TransAmerica," and after a recent Golden Globe win for Best Actress in a drama, Huffman is a front-runner for a Best Actress Oscar.

A buzzed-about new nonfiction book, "Self-Made Man: One Woman's Journey Into Manhood and Back," chronicles its female author's year and a half of living mannishly. The before and after pics are as different as X and Y.

And when even a straight-and-narrow icon like Barbie becomes part of the discussion, you know something's up.

So is it only a matter of time until that paragon of gangly girliness, Paris Hilton, dons a suit and fake facial hair to see what all the excitement is about?

"I think 'Brokeback Mountain' and all these cross-dressing and transgender characters are part of the same phenomenon," says Paul Levinson, professor of communications and media studies at Fordham University. "The gay-marriage debate during the

2004 election put these issues on the table in a way they hadn't been before, so Americans asked themselves, 'What is this all about?' It was absurd, and there's nothing better for Hollywood than an absurd political situation to capitalize on.

"So it suddenly became much more acceptable to mainstream America to find out about people who live differently. And Hollywood always loves something new. People want to see new things, wrapped up in new packages."

Those new packages come in a variety pack:

In her Globe acceptance speech, Huffman saluted people "who brave ostracism, alienation and a life lived on the margins to become who they really are."

In last fall's critical hit "Breakfast on Pluto," Cillian Murphy, hot off villainous turns in "Batman Begins" and "Red Eye," played a transvestite-about-town in 1970s Ireland.

In the current nonfiction book "Self-Made Man," lesbian author Norah Vincent chronicles 365 days of being a man among men, thanks to a paste-on beard, classes with a vocal coach and pinstripe suits.

On Showtime's "The L Word," newcomer Daniela Sea joins the cast as Moira-girlfriend to Mia Kirschner's Jenny-who will become "Max" by the season finale.

Last year's Sundance Channel reality program "TransGeneration" followed four transgender college students (two male-to-females and two female-to-males) as they transitioned from one gender to the other during a school year.

In a recent scandal that still has publishing tongues wagging, a San Francisco woman, Laura Albert, created a male pseudonym, "JT LeRoy," as the author of two books, including a "memoir" about growing up as a sexually confused male prostitute.

Albert hired a woman to play Mr. LeRoy at events before the scam was exposed.

The trend was dressed for laughs in fall 2004 when TBS debuted the reality show "He's a Lady," featuring burly, ultra-macho guys all dolled up to experience life in high heels. The collective result has created a higher profile for a community long relegated to the fringe.

"We're becoming more visible," says Mara Keisling, executive director at the National Center for Transgender Equality, "and so we're more likely to be represented in popular culture. Fifty years ago, people used to freak out about women wearing pants. Fortunately, humans evolve."

Some humans, though, don't want Barbie to evolve. Earlier this month, a Christian, conservative group-the Concerned Women of America-attacked the iconic plaything's Web site (www.Barbie.com) for an online poll it had run that asked children for their age and sex. One choice for the answer was "I don't know."

The CWA's Culture and Family Institute fumed that Mattel, Barbie's manufacturer, "was being influenced by the transgender movement." Mattel stated merely that "I don't know" should instead have been "I don't want to say." The choice for the answer has since been altered.

Despite the Barbie incident, the pop-culture crossovers are seen as progressive.

"It's a growing identification of general identity issues," says Cindi Creager, director of national news for the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation. "When you think back to 1999's 'Boys Don't Cry' and Hilary Swank's performance, that was groundbreaking. But now we're really seeing full, three-dimensional experiences."

Biggest 'Lost' Mystery: Why Is Hurley Still Fat?

Patrick Kampert

Chicago Tribune (KRT)

When the plane first crashed on the ABC drama "Lost" and deposited its surviving passengers on an island, lottery winner Hurley (portrayed by Jorge Garcia) had the pudgy physique, and then some, of the Skipper on Gilligan's Island.

After 50 days away from fast food and Western comforts, guess what? He's still the size of three Gilligans. But stay tuned; this could end up in the script.

As the TV show returned to the air this month, viewers could ignore their own winter weight gain and focus on Hurley's chubby conundrum: Why isn't he losing weight?

To solve this riddle, we turned to nutritionist Monique Ryan of Evanston, Ill. (moniqueryan.com), who has a private practice and works with world-class cyclists, triathletes and the Chicago Fire soccer team. (It also helps that she got hooked on "Lost" during the summer reruns.)

"You would expect that maybe he would (lose weight), but you'd have to sit down and look at what he's eat-

ing the whole day," said Ryan, author of the new "Performance Nutrition for Winter Sports" (Velo Press, \$19.95).

"He might also be an individual with a very slow metabolism. We tend to assume that everybody has complete control over things like that, but they don't. Some of that is genetic."

"Lost" doesn't dwell too heavily on the islanders' menu, it's not on the Food Network, after all. But Ryan said the most plentiful foods would probably be low-fat staples like fruit and fish.

One episode featured Hurley complaining to a doctor, a fellow survivor, about some gastrointestinal distress from gorging on fruit.

"Even fatter fish is going to be lower in fat than any kind of beef you get at a restaurant," Ryan pointed out.

Although the castaways recently opened an airplane hatch that had a cache of processed foods such as potato chips and peanut butter, Hurley's consistently rotund physique prior to the discovery remains a weight-loss mystery.

And consider this: Ryan noted that Hurley probably is getting more exercise in his new lifestyle.

"Because they're doing everything manually; they're walking, they're looking for food, they're cooking, they're washing their clothes by hand, that's a lot of calorie-burning," she said. "It's daily activity that we used to have in our lives that we don't anymore, which is contributing to a greater percentage of people being overweight."

Like, for instance, Hurley. So why is his gut still the size of a couple of flotation devices?

In an e-mail, co-creator/executive producer Damon Lindelof and executive producer Carlton Cuse gave this teasing reply:

"Hurley's inability to lose any significant weight, like many other things on the island, is shrouded in mystery. That mystery, however, will be definitively solved during February sweeps ... well, as definitively as anything ever gets solved on 'Lost,' anyway."

Will the Oscars Be A Conservative's Nightmare?

Robert W. Butler

Knight Ridder Newspapers (KRT)

Watching the recent Golden Globes telecast, many a social conservative must have felt like Joan Cusack's character in the movie "In & Out."

You know, the scene where the jilted bride stands forlornly in the middle of the street in her wedding dress screaming, "Is everybody gay? Is this a 'Twilight Zone'?"

Check it out: The gay cowboy drama "Brokeback Mountain" was the night's big winner, taking home Globes for best drama, directing (Ang Lee), screenplay and song.

Philip Seymour Hoffman was named best actor in a drama for his portrayal of the homosexual writer

Truman Capote in "Capote." His closest competition, by general consensus, was Heath Ledger as the sexually conflicted cowpoke in "Brokeback."

Felicity Huffman was named best actress in a drama for her portrayal of a man awaiting a sex change operation in "Transamerica."

About the evening's only red-state moments came with honors for the unambiguously hetero Johnny Cash biopic "Walk the Line," which won for best comedy or musical and for its leading players, Joaquin Phoenix and Reese Witherspoon.

So, will the Globes affect the Oscar race? Yes and no.

Don't be surprised when they announce the Oscar nominations Jan. 31 if "Walk the Line" is not a best

picture nominee. It has fierce competition in "Brokeback," "A History of Violence," "Munich," "Good Night, and Good Luck" and "Capote." If "Walk the Line" tanks and the "Brokeback"-Hoffman-Huffman juggernaut continues to roll, Bible Belt America viewers could tune out the show, especially with conservative-baiting Jon Stewart as host. In fact, the March 5 Oscar telecast may be the least-watched ever.

Here's my prediction: For the next six weeks the war of words over right and wrong, straight and gay, inclusiveness and intolerance will overshadow the drama of the Oscars themselves. And it's going to be a long time before the dust settles.

WUAG's CONCERT UPDATE JANUARY 31-FEBRUARY 6

Tuesday, January 31st

- Bombadil @ The Cave, Chapel Hill

- New Mexican Disaster Squad / Western Addiction @ Cats Cradle, Carrboro

Wednesday, February 1st

- Grayskul feat. Oary Ozzborn & DJ Wicked / Barfly / Coley Cole / DimMak @ Cats Cradle, Carrboro

Thursday, February 2nd

- Gaelic Storm @ Ziggy's, Winston

- Cat's Cradle Presents: The Hold Steady / Swearing At Motorists / Plastic Constellations @ Local 506, Chapel Hill

- Perpetual Groove (2 sets) @ Cats Cradle, Carrboro

- The Stock Market Crash / Sugar In The Dirt @ Warehouse, Winston

Friday, February 3rd

- House Of Fools / Classic Case / Far-Less / Keating / Paulson / Between Home and Serenity @ Greene Street, Greensboro

- David Allan Coe / Mood Cultivation Project @ Ziggy's, Winston

- Mad Tea Party @ Green Bean

- Transportation / North Elementary @ The Cave, Chapel Hill

- Cat's Cradle Presents: Early Man / Priestess / The Sword @ Local 506, Chapel Hill

- Big Eyed Beans From Venus @ Warehouse, Winston

Saturday, February 4th

- Trust/Kill Pride / Afterglow / Hero Drivea Moment / LATE NIGHT DANCE PARTY @ Greene Street, Greensboro

- Imperial Pints / Brothers Grim @ The Cave, Chapel Hill

- Perpetual Groove @ Ziggy's, Winston

- Cat's Cradle Presents: Hamell On Trial @ Local 506, Chapel Hill

- Parts And Labor / Matt & Kim @ Warehouse, Winston

Monday, February 6th

- Feist / Jason Collett @ Cats Cradle, Carrboro

Have an event
you want placed on the
schedule?
Send information via
e-mail to
nc_carolinian
@yahoo.com.

The reviews and opinions expressed in the Arts & Entertainment Section reflect solely those of the writer and not the staff as a whole.

You Know What's Good for You.

Decisively Indecisive



Paul's to the Wall

Paul McNeill
Staff Writer

Columnists deal with generalities. Addressing every variable is too time consuming - and takes up valuable ink and space. We can't afford to worry about shades of gray and subtleties. When forming an opinion, we're forced to pick a side and stick with it.

Besides, neutrality is boring. Just ask the French.

But every now and then, something happens that causes a re-evaluation of opinion.

Last week, I wrote that every league should create unbendable rules, which referees should enforce to the letter. Referees' opinions and feelings shouldn't come into play, and no rules should be left up to an official's interpretation.

Little did I know, someone out there was listening. Who would've thought referees in Houston read *The Carolinian*?

In a Jan. 21 men's college basketball game against Alabama-Birmingham, Houston coach Tom Penders collapsed on the sideline just before halftime. As UAB's Wen Mukubu drove to the basket and drew a foul, Penders dropped to his knees and fell face down on the court, where he stayed for several minutes.

The referees, thinking Penders was throwing a temper-tantrum over the foul call, hit the Cougars' couch with a technical foul.

Penders was then carried off the floor on a stretcher, but later returned in the second half of Houston's loss. Penders, who has a pacemaker, was diagnosed with cardiomyopathy, an inflammation of the heart muscle, in 1991.

When the referees learned Penders wasn't whining about a call, he'd simply fainted from a medical condition, they refused to rescind the technical.

This, of course, drew complaints from several critics, including Penders and Houston's conference, Conference USA.

Penders said after the game, "I don't remember anything to be upset about. To get called for a technical foul for collapsing to the floor is extremely poor judgment on the officials' part."

As of Friday, Penders was not penalized for criticizing the officials, which is usually mandatory.

Conference USA also said the officials "exercised poor judgment" by upholding the call and was considering punishing the referees, but what actions are taken will never be made public.

After I heard about the call, I struggled with whether to support the referees' decision. On one hand, the referees did exactly what I wanted them to do: Enforce a penalty and not back down. On the other hand, the referees didn't use common sense and gave Penders a technical for something he couldn't control.

But I still support the referees' decision because they made a choice and were consistent, and that's all I ask. Right or wrong, at least they stuck to their guns.

Besides, a foul call can't be rescinded. Once the whistle blows, that's it unless the NCAA instates instant replay. Even if that happens, foul calls won't be subject to review.

And how often does something like this happen anyway. How many times has a coach been penalized for having a dizzy spell? And the chances it will happen again are small to nonexistent. Let's not pretend this incident will cause a massive outbreak of referee hysteria.

Houston lost by three points, so the call probably cost the Cougars a win, but Penders and the rest of the CUSA need to get over it. This may be Penders' body's way of telling the coach he needs to hang it up. High-stress jobs, like coaching college basketball, are not for the weak of heart - pun intended.

Now that I've picked a side, remained consistent, and supported my opinion, I can say this: CUSA, fire those referees! What a bunch of jackasses!

Sports

On Deck:

--Continued athletic coverage
--Intramural news

TUESDAY, JANUARY 31, 2006 | PAGE 8

Wrestlers off to best start in program history

Spartans undefeated in conference play, set sights on showdown with Chattanooga

Daniel Price
Staff Writer

After last weeks come-from-behind victory over SoCon rival Appalachian State, the Spartans (9-1, 3-0 SoCon) carried that momentum into their non-conference match Wednesday against the Blue Devils of Duke University. UNCG easily defeated the ACC team, 23-9, winning 7 of the 10 matches.

The Spartans started off on a good note, getting an 8-4 decision from Cody Harrington at the 149 lbs. weight class. The Blue Devils quickly responded, however, taking an 8-4 decision of their own, as Duke's 157-pounder Cameron Harms defeated UNCG's Nate Berryman. UNCG's Mark Ring (165 lbs.), then scored a major decision over Aaron Glover 10-1, beginning a streak that saw the Spartans win four of the next five, including a thrilling last-second win for Joe Lowe at 174 lbs, over Duke's Levi Craig.

"I knew I could take him down on my feet," said Lowe, who relinquished a one-point lead early in the third period. "In the first and second period, I was shooting and shooting and I knew I could get on his legs easy. I just had that confidence in me and I knew I could take him down on my feet." Lowe's confidence paid off, as he scored a takedown with one second remaining to take the lead and win the match 6-4.

With the Spartans leading 10-3,

Duke's Dan Tulley (184 lbs.) defeated Kane Smith in overtime on a quick takedown that won the match 3-1, pulling the Blue Devils back within striking distance at 10-6.

The Spartans had reached the meat of their line-up, as 19th-ranked Daren Burns (197 lbs., and 14th-ranked Tyler Shovlin (heavyweight) came to the mat.

Burns easily won his match, scoring a 13-2 major decision over Konrad Dudziak, and Shovlin defeated the Blue Devils' Wade Van Sickle 4-0, leaving the Spartans one match shy of securing the team victory. The Blue Devils' 125-pounder kept the match in reach for Duke by scoring a 2-0 overtime win over the Spartans' Justin Walp, but Chris Bencivenga (133 lbs.) quickly ended any thoughts of a Duke comeback by defeating Michael Degli Obizzi 11-5. The Spartans' lone remaining ranked wrestler, 141-pounder Kevin Artis (20th), defeated Phillip Wightman 5-2, giving the Spartans a 23-9 team win.

With a conference match versus The Citadel only two days away, coach Tom Shifflet thought the Duke match could only help the Spartans' chances.

"I actually think it's an advantage for us to actually wrestle this evening and get a match under our belts before the match with Citadel Friday," said Shifflet. "They're a competitive team and they're going



SHIREEN SADAGHIANI/THE CAROLINIAN

Joe Lowe goes for a takedown versus The Citadel's Darius Caldwell. Lowe earned a major decision in the 174 lbs. weight class, defeating Caldwell 12-3.

to be ready to go."

Shifflet was right. The Bulldogs were ready to go, as they took two of the first three matches. The Citadel's Anthony Easter (125 lbs.) took a major decision from Walp, 11-0 to open the match and give the Bulldogs an early 4-0 lead. The Spartans' 133-pounder Bencivenga then won a back-and-forth match against the Bulldogs' Michael Arias, 17-11, but The Citadel's Sean Markey earned a 4-3 decision over Artis to extend the Bulldogs' lead to 7-3.

The Spartans then took the next two matches by decision, taking the overall lead 9-7, only to give it up in the next match, falling behind 10-9. In the 149 lbs. weight class, Harrington beat Matt Bullwinkle 12-7, followed by a 3-2 victory for the Spartans' Andrew Krieger (157 lbs Chris Humphries. UNCG had barely nestled into its lead when the Bulldogs took it back. The Citadel's Dan Thompson defeated Ring 4-0 in the 165 lbs. weight class.

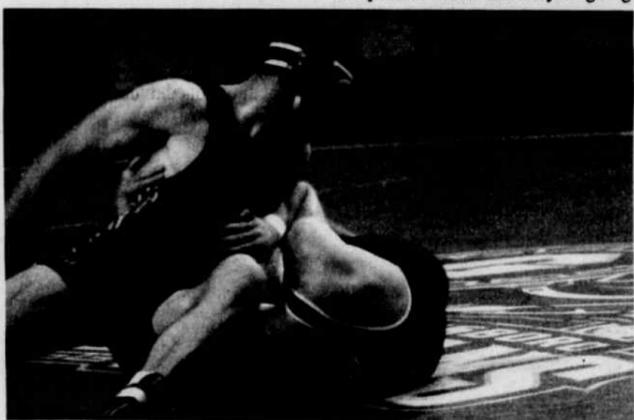
The Spartans retaliated quickly and decisively, taking each of the last four matches. Lowe (174 lbs.) took a 12-3 major decision from Darius Caldwell to give the Spartans the lead for good. Smith in the 184 lbs. weight class then dominated Allen

Elliot to get a technical fall in the third period. Nineteenth-ranked Burns then secured the match with a 5-2 decision win over Mark Thompson. With the heavyweight only a formality, Shovlin put an exclamation point on the win by pinning John Buck in 4:13, making the final team score 27-10.

The Spartans now stand at 3-0 in the Southern Conference, and their 9-1 record is the best 10-bout start in the history of the program. Pre-season SoCon favorite Chattanooga is the currently the only other undefeated SoCon team, at 1-0 in the conference. UNCG travels to Chattanooga on Feb. 18 for the final SoCon match of the year.

"It's going to be an exciting match. There's no question," says Shifflet. "There's going to be some great match-ups. Chattanooga gets a great following, so it'll be a huge crowd... I'm looking forward to it, but VMI is a good solid team also, and we need to get ready for them first."

The Spartans host VMI next Wednesday, Feb. 15 at 7 pm in Fleming Gymnasium after a road trip and home match against non-conference opponent, Maryland on Saturday, Feb. 11 at 10:30 am. □



JOHN READ/THE CAROLINIAN

Daren Burns tries for a reversal against Duke's Konrad Dudziak in the 197 lbs. bout. He went on to pick up a 13-2 major decision.

Women extend conference win streak to four

Spartans blow out Wofford, edge Davidson in overtime thriller

Stephanie White
Staff Writer

The UNCG women's basketball team extended its winning streak to four games on Saturday afternoon after a 63-62 overtime win against the Davidson Wildcats at Belk Arena in Davidson, NC.

The Spartans handed the second place Wildcats their first conference loss of the season at home, while extending their record to 10-9 overall and 6-4 in the Southern Conference.

UNCG was led by sophomore Kemena Brooks who came off the bench to score a career-high 17 points off 7-8 shooting. Junior KaLeah Latham tallied her fourth career double-double with 12 points and 10 rebounds. Sophomore Kristen Boone continued her streak of all-around good play with 10 points, five rebounds, five assists, and three steals.

UNCG took an early 8-4 lead at the start of the game but Davidson tied it up at the 12:33 mark. Davidson continued to hold the lead into halftime despite a 9-2 run by the Spartans at the end of the half. Davidson went into halftime with a 26-22 lead over the Spartans, which marked the first time UNCG had trailed at the half since Jan. 9 against Georgia Southern. The Spartans gained their first lead of the game at the 10:51 mark of the second half. However, the Wildcats went on a 5-0

run to put Davidson up 42-39. Davidson held the lead until a 7-0 UNCG run at the 7:30 mark to tie the game at 47. Boone scored six straight for the Spartans with 2:08 remaining to give UNCG a 55-53 lead but a Davidson 3-pointer with 0:22 seconds left put the game in overtime. After a three-pointer by junior Jasmine Byrd in the extra period to put UNCG up 61-60 with 1:58 remaining, Boone layed in the game-winning shot to give the Spartans their first overtime win of the season.

UNCG returned home on Tuesday, Jan. 25 after a two game road trip to face the Wofford Terriers in Fleming Gym. The Spartans shot an impressive 50 percent from the field to pull out a dominating 84-64 win over the terriers.

UNCG was led by freshman Gini Grimsley, who dropped a career-high 22 points. Boone chipped in 18 points and seven assists for the Spartans, while Brooks tossed in 12 points of the bench and Latham recorded 11 points and seven rebounds. When asked about her career-high performance, Grimsley responded: "I think I shot the ball well but I wasn't looking to shoot the whole time. I was looking for teammates as well and I think they helped me get in the flow of the game."

Along with Grimsley and Brooks, the UNCG bench accounted for 42 of the Spartans' 84 points of the night. Brooks said the solid play of the bench is just what the team needs. "We need to stay more consistent as far as scoring off the bench, getting points, and making stuff happen."

Boone agreed that bench play came up big for UNCG in that game. "They gave us some really good minutes," said the Upper Marlboro, MD native. "They took care of the ball and ran the offense."

It was a career night for other members of the women's basketball team as well. 25th year head coach Lynne Agee recorded her 100th career win in the Southern Conference with the win over Wofford. She is only the third head coach in the conference to reach this pinnacle. Also, junior Jasmine Byrd became only the fourth player in UNCG history to hit 100 three-pointers in her career.

UNCG will return to Fleming Gym on Saturday, Feb. 4 to face the Furman Paladins at 2 pm.

Ashley Ling (top) looks to drive versus Wofford. Gini Grimsley (right) faces up a Wofford defender. Grimsley scored a career-high 22 points against the Terriers.



JOHN READ/THE CAROLINIAN



A Tale of Two Thieves

Hickman and Boone raising eyebrows on the defensive end

Brad Howell

Sports Editor

A well-kept secret concerning standout UNC Greensboro basketball players Ricky Hickman and Kristen Boone has recently surfaced. The pair has repeatedly been witnessed stealing valuable possessions from others, but nothing has yet to be done about it.

If anything, the crimes are likely to increase-or at least the players hope so. That's because the only object Hickman and Boone have been stealing is the rock. Not diamonds or any other valuable jewels, but the basketball from their opponents' hands.

Heading into this past Saturday's match-up with Davidson, Boone had tallied 67 steals in just 14 games played. Those numbers were good enough to rank her second in Division I women's basketball with a gaudy average of 4.8 steals per game.

On the men's side, Hickman currently ranks No. 8 in Division I, averaging 3.1 spg. The junior guard has amassed 52 steals in 17 games going into Saturday's tilt with Georgia Southern.

Standing at only 5'5, Boone is undersized even for a point guard. But despite her small frame, she also leads the team in scoring (13.0) and assists (4.9).

It wasn't always that way however. Boone claims that she struggled offensively when she was young, so buckling down on defense was her ticket to getting on the court.

"When I first started (playing) I wasn't any good at shooting-or anything offensively for that matter," said the sophomore from Upper Marlboro, MD. "I knew I wanted to see time on the floor, so ever since I was little I've focused on defense."

During her freshman season a year ago, Boone proved that she was still an extremely dedicated defender, leading Division I women with 4.32 steals per game. She finished with a school-record 121 steals, only one short of the SoCon mark set by Marshall's Tracy Krueger in 1992-93. The 121 thefts



SHIREEN SADAGHIANI/THE CAROLINIAN

Spartan guard Ricky Hickman (right) D's up Duke star J.J. Redick on Dec. 31 at the Greensboro Coliseum. Hickman leads the SoCon in steals, and is eighth overall in the nation, averaging 3.1 steals per game.

was also the fifth highest single-season mark ever by a freshman. To top it all off, she was named the Southern Conference's Freshman-of-the-Year.

After missing the first four games of the season with a hand injury, Boone likely won't reach last season's overall steals total. However, she has upped her average to 4.9 steals per contest this season. She attributes the increase to a more disciplined and diverse approach to her craft.

"I don't try and go for them (steals) right out of the gate," said Boone of her new method. "I'm actually trying to be more conservative this season because I got beat a lot last year trying to gamble too much."

While a majority of her steals still come from her tenacious on-the-ball defense, Boone has tried to expand her repertoire.

"This year I'm playing more in the lanes and anticipating passes versus just trying to get it off the dribble," said Boone. "It's working out so far."

The two players have contrasting styles when it comes to taking the ball, but in the end, the results

are the same. For Hickman, playing the passing lanes are vital to his success. The 6'3, long-limbed guard says timing and anticipation have long been his forte.

"I've always had a knack for having my hands around the ball," said the junior from nearby Kernersville, NC. "Stealing the ball is a lot about being in the right place at the right time. You have to try and see the play before it happens and stay a step ahead of your opponent."

Hickman cracked the Top 15 in steals as a sophomore last season, and he has been as high as third overall this year.

A talented offensive player, Hickman currently leads the Spartans and is third in the SoCon with a scoring average of 18.6 points per game.

Although Hickman gets his share of steals defending one-on-one, picking off passes comes easier for him because the Spartans rarely play man-to-man. Their zone defense gives him plenty of chances to grab errant or lazy passes.

"I feel like I can always get some steals in the passing lanes because I have pretty long arms," said Hickman. "Opponents will underestimate my length, and what they think is a safe pass, a lot of times I can get my hands on."

There are a lot of athletic guards out there, but stealing the ball requires more than just quick hands and feet. Boone says that hand-eye coordination and good timing are everything. Hickman also credits solid preparation, such as watching film and learning about your opponent's tendencies.

Both believe that playing solid D is top priority, and if they are successful on that end of the floor the steals will follow.

"I never thought I would lead the nation in anything," said Boone of last season's milestone. "I don't worry about trying to get steals, because if I put too much pressure on myself I'll start to reach and pickup fouls, and then I'll have to be on the bench and not out there leading my team."

Keeping her on the bench may be the opposition's only chance.



JOHN READ/THE CAROLINIAN

Kristen Boone prepares to pick up her defender after a made free throw versus College of Charleston. Boone led the nation in steals as a freshman, and is currently second in that category this year with an average of 4.8 spg.

Men's tennis falls to NC State in spring opener

Shireen Sadaghiani

Staff Writer

The Spartans' spring schedule opener against North Carolina State University did not end in favor of UNCG. NCSU shut out UNCG, 7-0 in Raleigh, NC this past Saturday. The Wolfpacks dominated all six singles matches and the three doubles.

Senior Marc Ladoucer was optimistic about the loss, "NC State is very solid at every position... Everybody fought real hard and even if it doesn't look like it from the results... it was very encouraging to see all the guys hang in there with these guys. Despite the loss... it's a good preparation for what's coming up next on the season."

Last week, the Wolfpacks (No. 45), dominated as they prevailed over American University.

UNCG will face American, Saturday, Feb. 10, when the Spartans travel up to Maryland for an early

season match up against American which takes place in Washington, DC. After the 10am start up the Spartans will head back to College Park, MD to face up against the Terrapins at 3:30pm. On top of the Saturday double header, the Spartans with face the Navy the following day at noon.

An enthusiastic Marc Ladoucer shares his insight on heading to Maryland, "That trip will be a big test for us with three matches in two days, including ACC team, Maryland. We've prepared ourselves very well in the past three weeks and we'll be ready to compete... We'll have good battles at every spot and we'll have to step it up in key moments."

Entering his 19th season as head coach, Jim Laitta, will host the Spartans at their home. The Terrapins are a young squad this year with five



SHIREEN SADAGHIANI/THE CAROLINIAN

Jason Steinhorn drills a backhand during a match last season. The local product from Greensboro's Page High School is one of four juniors on this year's team.

freshmen, two sophomores, and two juniors.

Up Next, the Spartans' will face High Point on Tuesday at 2pm at the UNCG courts.

Spartans down The Citadel at home, but road woes continue

Free throws, turnovers plague team on road

Brad Howell

Sports Editor

UNCG got back on the winning side of things in the final game of its season long three-game homestand, defeating The Citadel, 65-46. Playing on the road continued to be unkind however, as UNCG fell to Georgia Southern Saturday night, 86-78.

The Spartans (10-11, 3-4 SoCon) turned in a solid defensive performance against The Citadel, holding it to only 29 percent shooting from the field, with only 14 total field goals. The Bulldogs were the fourth team UNCG has held under 50 points this season.

Kyle Hines and Ricky Hickman once again led the offensive charge for UNCG, going for 17 and 16 points, respectively. But it was the stellar play of sophomore point guard Dwayne Johnson that set the tone for the Spartans.

"I thought Dwayne Johnson made some really nice point guard plays down the stretch," said Spartan coach Mike Dement.

"He's playing as well as he's ever played."

Johnson had a very solid "point guard" game. He scored only eight points, but he got to the paint at will and took great care of the ball, dishing seven assists against zero turnovers.

The Queens, NY native easily penetrated the lane, and made several nice dishes. Johnson also converted a conventional three-point play in the second half when he converted a free throw after being fouled on a spin move to the hoop.

The Spartans shot the ball well for the game, hitting 56.8 percent of their shots from the field. UNC Greensboro held a comfortable lead for most of the contest, but The Citadel trailed by only six after Dante Terry nailed a three-pointer with 8:41 remaining.

The Spartans turned up the defense from that point on, limiting the Bulldogs to just one more field goal the rest of the way.

The match-up with Georgia Southern pitted two of the SoCon's best scorers against each other. Elton Nesbitt, who leads the conference in scoring with 21.8 ppg, squared off against Hickman, who is second in the league with a 19.1 scoring average. The two didn't disappoint either, as Nesbitt went for a season-high 36

points to lead the Eagles to a 86-78 win.

Hickman recorded his eighth 20-point game of the year, scoring 26 points on the night. Hines contributed a double-double with 22 points and 13 rebounds.

The Spartans dropped their first game of the season while leading at the half. UNC Greensboro had reeled off 23 consecutive wins when going into the locker room with the lead, last losing against Wofford in the SoCon tournament back in March of 2004.

Poor free throw shooting and turnovers plagued UNCG, as they hit only 17-of-30 attempts at the line while turning the ball over 25 times.

The Spartans were in good shape before the half however, thanks to a 16-3 run that game them a 39-35 halftime lead.

Georgia Southern responded by going on an 11-3 run of its own to open the second half and regain the lead. UNCG never recovered, despite a late 8-1 run.

The Spartans continued the road trip Monday against Wofford, but scores were not available at press time.

UNCG returns home on Saturday, Feb. 4 against Furman. Tip-off is at 7 pm.



JOHN READ/THE CAROLINIAN

Dwayne Johnson played an exceptional game versus The Citadel. The sophomore point guard had eight points and seven assists.

Interested in covering sports?

Questions or comments about the section?

Any and all inquiries should be sent to:

carolinian_sports@yahoo.com

Jones breaks record

Shireen Sadaghiani

Staff Writer

Charles Jones, who entitles the first UNCG male athlete to qualify for the National Outdoor Championships, broke the Spartans indoor record by over a meter, recording a mark of 15.04 meters. The event took place at the Niswonger Invitational on Jan. 2.

"The record doesn't feel as good as it does to see that I'm jumping consistently in the high 14's and 15 which is around what I was jumping at the end of outdoor season last year." Jones notes, "I'm looking forward to just the season in general, building on what has so far been a good off-season and a good start to indoor."

Niswonger Invitational

UNCG results

Women's results

1 Mile 9. Jess Weber, 5:29.01

10. Kathy Oldham 5:29.83;

25. Tricia O'Connell 5:45.54;

26. Erin Lord 5:46.32

5000 Meters 11. Heidi Pinkerton

19:31.00

22. Stephanie Maltais 20:43.80

Men's Results

800 Meters: 10. Jeff Williams

1:56.20

41. Chris Cousins 2:12.00

3000 Meters 10. Nicolas Vaccaro

8:52.78

25. Ryan Rodd 9:13.93

5000 Meters 4. Xavier Rutz

15:12.76

16. Keith Gruchacz 15:47.49

20. Josh Wyatt 16:00.65

Long Jump 3. Charles Jones 6.88 m

(22-07)

16. Ramon Jobson-Brown 6.17 m

(20-03)

Triple Jump 3. Charles Jones 15.04

m (49-4.25); Ramon Jobson-Brown

LIFE

HUMOR SEX CULTURE

Be here next week for:

The return of "On Faith."

Mouse language discovered; rodents demand exotic cheeses

Mouse: "One more slice of American and we're going to start eating each other again."

Faux News

Luke McIntyre
Staff Writer

Mice are often the target of laboratory experiments, an age-old tradition of revenge for the Black Plague. While the more dangerous experiments involve needles and untested drugs, sometimes causing mice to burst like furry piñatas, others are somewhat mouse friendly. One such experiment was conducted by UNCG biology professor Matina Kalcounis-Rüppell last October. Kalcounis-Rüppell discovered that mice, in a way similar to bats, can communicate through ultrasonic chirping too high in frequency for humans to hear.

The experiment attempted to communicate with mice using a variety of sound levels, said Kalcounis-Rüppell. "First we tried a loud speaker, but that just scared the living hell out of them." After a long series of trial and error, and the creation of several miniature hearing aids, ultrasound was discovered by accident.

"One of my interns was listening to a Mariah Carey CD when we noticed the mice reacting. It didn't take us long to figure out that both the mice and Mariah Carey communicate at an ultrasonic level," said Kalcounis-Rüppell. "We were quite surprised to find out that they actually have a language. It's simple, and we were able to translate it quite quickly, but this is amazing."

In response to the Mariah Carey CD the mice, according to Kalcounis-Rüppell, were loudly repeating "Stop it, stop it, oh god you're killing us!" The chants were not translated in time and several mice took their own lives.

It was discovered that the group of mice have a leader; one that Kalcounis-Rüppell had earlier named Chuckles. With the help of a translat-

ing machine developed by the professor, Chuckles attempted to explain some of the misconceptions often associated with mice. For instance, Chuckles pointed out that mice aren't actually looking for cheese at the end of the maze. "Don't get me wrong, I like cheese," said the mouse. "But you put me in a maze. I don't want to be in a maze. I prefer being out of a maze. What did you expect me to do?"

Elaborating on the subject of cheese, Chuckles demanded that his people (mice) be given more exotic cheeses, saying "One more slice of American and we're going to start eating each other again."

People don't consider the hardships mice face every day, said Chuckles. "Some people will put you in a little cage and feed you, then some people poison you for no good reason. Some people put these things out that taunt you with food and then snap down on you just when you think you're going to survive another hungry night. That's why we poop on your toothbrushes when you're asleep."

Though most scientists are excited by these findings, professor Kalcounis-Rüppell has recently received some flak from animal rights groups saying that the experiment is cruel to the mice. Once the group began protesting outside of her office, she devised a plan to get rid of them.

"I simply used the mice translator on them," said Kalcounis-Rüppell. "Due to the animal rights activists' tiny brains, the translator not only sent them messages but they had no willpower to resist them." The professor instructed the protesters to leave, but not before making them cluck like chickens and engage in a hot dog eating contest.



LUKE MCINTYRE/THE CAROLINIAN

The Carolinian is looking for new cartoonists!

If you're interested, drop us a line at www.carolinianonline.com or bring some samples of your work to The Carolinian office, Room 236 in the Elliot University Center.

People taking news into their own hands

Paranoid about media? Short attention span? ShortNews may be for you.

Luke McIntyre
Staff Writer

Web Junkie

Modern news is becoming more and more of a sickening display of partisanship. Picking your favorite news channel would be more accurately described as picking the prejudice you can stomach. Meanwhile "unbiased" commentators provide an almost nauseating non-stop assault of partisan rhetoric. Online and print news sources are too often filled with stomach-churning writers who beat metaphors like dead horses who owe them money. The medicine for your woes? A daily dose of ShortNews.

ShortNews (www.shortnews.com) is basically the combination of an RSS feed and Wikipedia. It's an RSS feed (Really Simple Syndication, a service that provides lists of links to news items from various websites. Another example of this is Fark (www.fark.com), which is simply a constantly updated list of links with humorous quips. Fark has grown so popular that any page that is linked on it automatically gets thousands of hit, giving start to the phrase "I got Farked."

And ShortNews is like Wikipedia in the sense that the content is created completely by its users. The beauty of this system is that the user base is too diverse to allow any real bias, and ShortNews even has a system of peer review to prevent it. The site also includes a short summary of each news article, letting you know

the basics of each story quickly (hence the title). Even if someone wanted to slant a story they wouldn't have enough room to do so. The three paragraph limit allows only enough space for the facts of a story. If the reader wants to know more then they can continue on to the linked news source.

This website actually goes a step further than Wikipedia in giving its contributors rankings based on articles submitted and the popularity of those articles. Their ranking can also be penalized for bad reporting, incorrect sourcing and many other errors, so you can tell in numbers how much you should trust a certain report.

ShortNews is news for people who don't want to sift through two or three sources in order to get the facts of one story. It's also a lot of news at once, the main page displaying any combination of twelve categories, several items under each category. You can set up an account, allowing you to arrange your own homepage so that you get just the news you want. Reliable, thorough, and to the point, ShortNews is one of the many instances of people taking news into their own hands.

PUBLIC DOMAIN

Web Junkie is a continuing feature that explores the strangest and most interesting corners of the Internet.

Have a site we have to see? Drop a line to Life editor Joe Killian at Joekillian@gmail.com.

Playing the game

"When you've got no past experience to run on and everything you know has turned upside down (for better or worse, you can't yet tell), just what the hell are you supposed to do?"



The Erogenous Zone

Brook Taylor
Staff Writer

In the wake of my recent foray into the world of lady lovin', my life has once again been flooded with the insanity of romance. Familiar sensations and emotions have re-introduced themselves to me, and as always, it's been one hell of an eye-opener. Like most people out there with a special someone in mind, I generally have no idea what the hell I'm doing anymore. The only thing I know for sure is that I'm playing the game.

If I've learned anything from all the Queen and Elton John songs I listen to, it's that love is nothing more than a game, and we're all just a bunch of pieces on a board. I personally like to imagine the gods up on Mount Olympus gathered around a table, moving us around on a whim, just to see what happens. But even if you don't believe it's all up to fate, there's no denying the rules we all play by.

There are techniques we swear by for every single moment of every romantic interaction, from the initial hello to the (usually) inevitable breakup. We have to formulate something cool to say so the first impression we leave isn't blown all to hell, and then we calculate how long to wait before calling.

Assuming the first date went well, we analyze our feelings on everything and plan for another date. We group all sexual interactions into bases and try to space them out tastefully (who wants to come off as easy?). Quite early on, we start stressing about introducing them to our panel of judges (aka: the best friends that know what's good for us even when we don't). Then comes the title dilemma; just when exactly is it okay to call the person your boyfriend or girlfriend?

Even with our dating guidelines memorized, when we decide to invest in a new romantic interest, we're never really aware of what we're getting ourselves into. We can try to draw on past experiences and read the signs ahead of time, but when we get in the thick of it, we realize quickly that we're just flying by the seat of pants. Decisions are always spur-of-the-moment as we try our hardest not to mess things up with the potential love of our life (because who knows, right?). And of course, our friends are all fed up with hearing our too-deep analysis of anything and everything that happens.

Even though they may seem pointless and irritating at times, we all find some solace in the semi-dependability of the game. It allows us a little piece of mind and direction, even if it's only momentary. But what do we do when we find ourselves entangled in a situation that breaks all the rules?

Take for example, my lesbian love affair. I'd definitely say that one breaks all the rules (at the very least, all the ones I've set for myself).

When the weird, foreign feelings invaded my system, I almost felt like a stranger to myself. Things had gotten a little too heavy for me to handle. When you've got no past experience to run on and everything you know has turned upside down (for better or worse, you can't yet tell), just what the hell are you supposed to do?

I can't claim that it's the right path to take, but I pulled a disappearing act. When you can't find the answer where you are, you'd better go looking for it, I always say. I told my girl that I couldn't handle a relationship, and then proceeded to cushion my burdened mind with my favorite entertainment. I watched movies on a loop, put a few select albums on repeat, and consulted my personal bible (aka The Complete Works of Oscar Wilde. I've found that the answer to all of my questions are in there, if I only look hard enough).

I emerged a few days later with a much lighter and enlightened view on my situation. So what if things aren't going the way we thought they would? What's so wrong with veering off course? Maybe the experience of another road is just what we need. Love is just a game, after all, and it certainly doesn't play by the rules. So why should we? Pieces fall off the board and hearts get broken in the process, but they always get picked back up again. All we can do is roll with it.

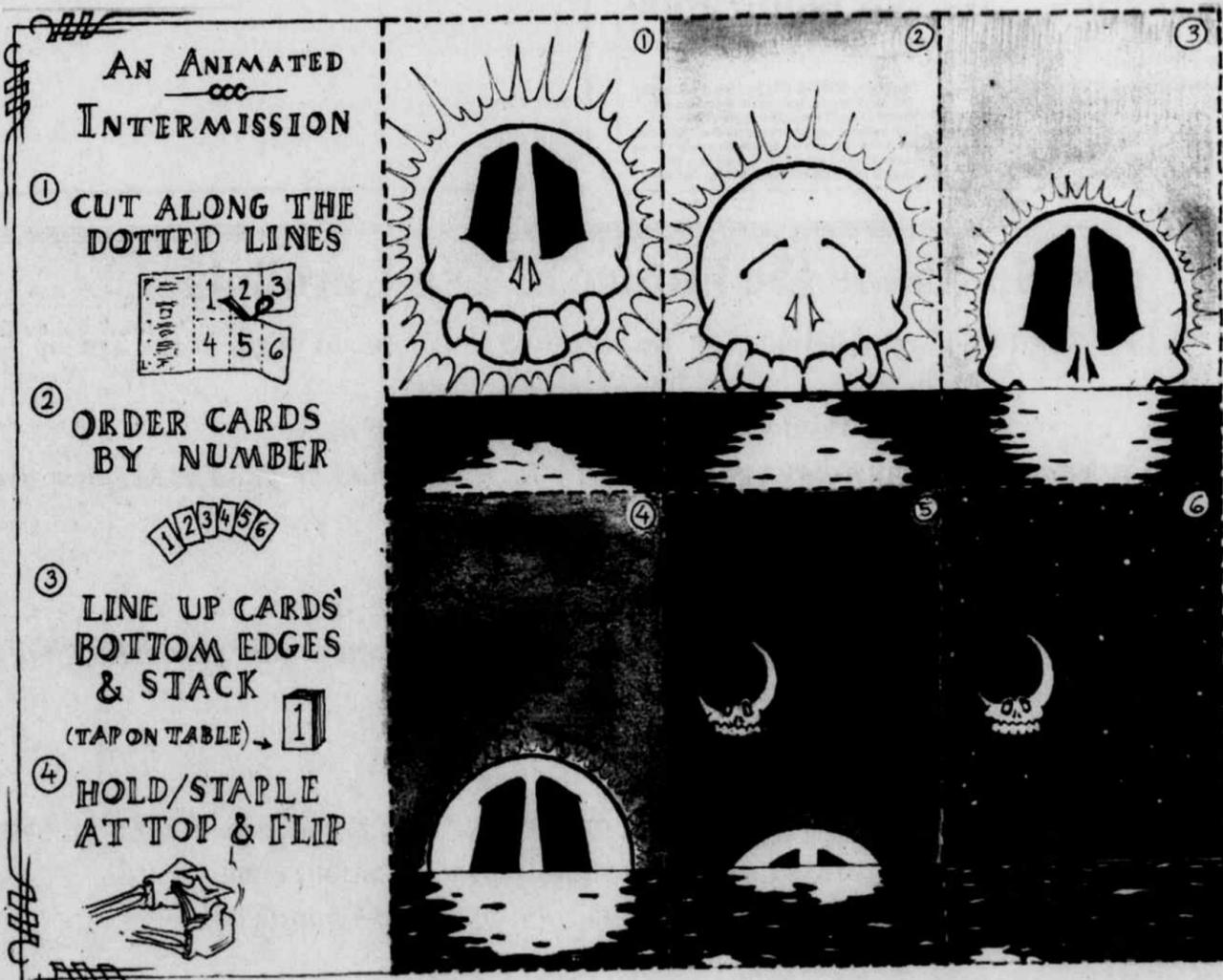
The Carolinian is looking for guest columnists for the Life section's "On Faith" column.

"On Faith" is a continuing column exploring the faith of UNCG students and their experiences with religion. If you're interested e-mail Life editor Joe Killian at Joekillian@gmail.com

The Family Monster by Josh Shalek



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BRITAIN PECK/ THE CAROLINIAN

Save \$\$\$ on your text books with a new online service - Skoobin.com

Joie Chapman
Staff Writer

A new semester often finds students trying to outwit the campus bookstore. A new free website is acting as a facilitator for students trying to get the best prices for textbooks, regardless if they are buying or selling. Skoobin.com is the polished internet equivalent of the cork boards you see covered in pages advertising a used History textbook or a Spanish workbook that was never used. The tear-off-email-address/cell-number pages give about the same information too.

Skoobin, created by 3 Gardner-Webb graduates as a way to reduce the "hassle of shipping and handling with other online sites, or low buy-back prices from on campus book-

stores," allows students to fill out several categories for each book: course, title of the book, asking price, condition, and email address. Other students can browse the "bulletin board" for the book they need and send an email to the posted address. Books are listed by subject, such as Art, Business, and Music.

Why did Jennifer Henderlight, James Reeves and Kerek Taylor feel the need to create this site when they were just students? Perhaps it has to do with increasing frustration from fellow classmates about high bookstore prices and low buyback prices. UNCG students feel this pressure as well.

"I think all the bookstores rip off students for as much as they can and set the prices too high for an average student to afford. You hardly ever get even half the money you spent

for reselling a book. Its ridiculous," says UNCG junior Sarah Marie Gray. She would love to be able to use a site like Skoobin.com; when asked about it, she replied,

"I think that would be awesome and help recycle books and keep students from having to spend so much money on textbooks."

When questioned about the success of the site so far, one of the sites founders Kerek Taylor said that the site was well received on the Gardner-Webb campus, but not so at many other schools. This could be due to a lack of marketing on their behalf as many students questioned at UNCG had never heard of the Skoobin.com service. Some students remarked that they wished they had known of the site at the beginning of the semester, possibly saving them a "whole lot" at the

bookstore.

Word-of-mouth is usually the best way for students to accept new enterprises, which does take time as Taylor suggests,

"We think it just needs time to grow and catch on, kind of like Facebook, although, we are more of a niche."

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Applications must be made in writing with a writing or photo sample no later than 5:00 pm February 3rd, 2006. For further info or to submit an application, email
Anthony Ridge News Editor: carolinian.news@gmail.com

New Fringe Review-cont. from page 6

went on, little slices of cake were served to the audience. And unbeknownst to the fighters, dancer Erin Leigh sat down and ate the piece of cake that they were fighting over. Once she realized this, they cursed and gave up, carrying each other off, returning, performed by ShaLeigh Dance Works & Company, reminded me of a sweet nightmare. It began with the two women, dreamily searching each others faces and then entered a severe looking woman dressed as a very cold Spaniard. She glided in her wintry hat and long coat with her red flamenco skirt and shoes peeking from underneath. She sternly struck her heel over and over again, takes off her outer layers and starts ranting in Spanish. They whisper frantically, do the running man, and duet with folding chairs. They are mourning and itchy, dragging and dazed, frantically flickering. It was all very abstract and fragmented but somehow still sweet.

Feminine [E]ntropy, performed by Holly Gilbert, Christine Kiernan and Caris Wilson, explored the challenges of being a woman. Choreographer Kindal Blattner-Buterin, provided a piece balancing running and repetition. Video images

of women in the media played in the background, smiling and putting on make-up. The three dancers played against these flashing scenes, flailing balance in ties, oxford shirts and skirts over pants.

It's Been One Week was annoyingly cool. This duet performed by Caroline Calouche & Co. juxtaposed repetitious everyday gestures with the sounds of the radio from a morning show and flipping through the dial. This piece was articulate in movement and provided the most committed and engaging dance performance of the evening.

The show closed with the Larry "Syid" Wright's one act play **Grand Slam**, a piece exploring baseball, addiction, loyalty, racism and sticky situations. It was a wonderful little play set during the time when African Americans played in separately in the Negro League. Although the acting was not completely flawless, it was sincere. They brought the baseball game into theatre, scoring homeruns and taking a victory laps with the audience. And the audience booed and cheered on cue.

This evening of New Fringe was a diverse group of work, an interesting display of the work being done in the area; interesting and fun, a great opening for the festival.

Local Music Show Review-cont. from p.6

and rocking forward in a swaying wall of sweaty boys by then end of their set. The guitars were very Crimson Spectre-sounding. Another screamy band (in the thrash sense), their vocals were almost inaudible. This is most likely due to the trade-off fact that it was a free house show without proper equipment to balance the volume of the guttural screams with the frenzied sound from the instruments.

Wasteland didn't receive very positive audience feedback. One gentle-

www.carolinianonline.com

Reach Charla Duncan, A&E editor, at: ae_thecarolinian@yahoo.com

man called them, "cheap hardcore bullshit."

"Of course I moshed to it because I was drunk, but I didn't hear anything I wanted to hear again when I went home," said Christopher (Spence) Spencer. On the contrary, Spencer said he loved to watch Wolverines, especially for their "spastic" drummer, Brandon Smith. Wasteland were a decent, tight band that are a solid representation their genre; however they were nothing too original.

Also on tour from Amherst, Massachusetts was Ampere. In a mostly male dominated music scene,

it was refreshing to see a female (bassist) in a band of this type. This band was the grand finale. They too had inaudible vocals, but they rocked harder than hell and most everyone remaining in the audience were rocking hard with them, everyone almost fitting into the little room with the band Ampere sounded almost like a blend of Wasteland and Wolverines, so they were the perfect ending for the show.

Wolverines, Wasteland, and Ampere can also be found and sampled on myspace.com.

Movie Review-cont. from page 6

really get to know the missionaries and feel their mighty passion in End of the Spear. It's hard to identify with them, and difficult to see why they would leave their families and risk their lives because WHY they're doing what they're doing is so disappointingly underplayed. This bold story deserved to be told boldly.

Nonetheless, the movie had a

number of positives. There's some beautiful imagery, particularly Ecuador, the tribe, and the missionaries flying in their plane. And there was also some surprisingly good acting from a virtually no-name cast. Chad Allen was good in a duel part of a missionary killed and his son years later and Louie Leonardo was mesmerizing as Mincayani, leader of the Wadani tribe. I was disappointed by End of the Spear, but it still is a dynamic story. I went to see it with

my folks, and my father (a minister) really enjoyed it. And I imagine it easily beats the past week's newest releases, Annapolis and Big Mama's House 2 (which have been speared by critics).

And if you see End of the Spear, be sure to stick around for the credits. There's a couple of very entertaining clips inserted from The Gates of Splendor, the true documentary of this story, and a movie I hope to see soon.

TO DO - UNCG Campus February 2-February 5

THURSDAY, FEB. 2

Museum Lecture: "Conserving Ivy: Talk with Ruth Cox." 7 p.m. Ruth Cox discusses the extensive project undertaken to conserve the works of art by the late artist Gregory Ivy. Offered in conjunction with the current exhibition of Ivy's works. Weatherspoon Art Museum, Spring Garden and Tate streets. Free. (336) 334-5770, weatherspoon.uncg.edu.

Music: Artist Faculty Chamber Series: Testimony & Tribute, Mozart & Shostakovich. 7:30 p.m. Recital Hall, Music Building, McIver and W. Market streets. Tickets: \$10 Adults, \$6 Seniors, \$3 Students. UNCG Box Office: (336) 334-4849. www.uncg.edu/mus.

Art Exhibition Opens: "Graduate Exhibition." An exhibition featuring the work of graduate students from the UNCG Department of Art. Continues through Mar. 2. McIver Building Gallery, McIver Street and Walker Avenue. (336) 334-5248, www.uncg.edu/art.

Multicultural Resource Center Spring Open House, Thursday, February 2, from 4 pm to 7 pm (The MRC is located at 062 EUC)

FRIDAY, FEB. 3

Theatre: "The Foreigner" by Larry Shue. 8 p.m. Winner of two Obie Awards and two Outer Critic Awards, this comic romp depicts what can happen when a group of eccentric Southern characters interact with a stranger who (they think) knows no English. Brown Building Theatre, Tate Street. Tickets: \$12 Adults, \$10 Seniors/Students, \$5 UNCG Students. UNCG Box Office: (336) 334-4849. www.uncg.edu/the.

SATURDAY, FEB. 4

Theatre: "The Foreigner" by Larry Shue. 8 p.m. See Feb. 3

SUNDAY, FEB. 5

Theatre: "The Foreigner" by Larry Shue. 2 p.m. See Feb. 3

Music: Randal Love and Andrew Willis. 3:30 p.m. Faculty/guest artist piano recital. Recital Hall, Music Building, McIver and W. Market streets. Free. UNCG Box Office: (336) 334-4849. www.uncg.edu/mus.

Music: Fibonacci Chamber Orchestra. 5:30 p.m. Recital Hall, Music Building, McIver and W. Market streets. Free. (336) 334-5789, www.uncg.edu/mus.

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