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It's the next big thing and it's spreading throughout UNCG. Find out how to get on board - and when you'll be required to.

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Joe Killian praises the ability of TV news to stir your emotions when disaster truly strikes.

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TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2005

Students jump to aid Katrina victims

Matt Blalock
Staff Writer

Thousands of homes destroyed; lives changed forever; most everybody in the Louisiana area, as well as parts of Mississippi and Alabama, is in need of help.

Over 500,000 have been placed in temporary living environments all across the United States. Texas is housing nearly 250,000 people. Other states providing living quarters include Minnesota, Arizona, Michigan, Arkansas, Washington DC, Florida, Tennessee and North Carolina.

Charlotte has about a thousand people, and Greensboro will very soon - nearly 600 are expected to

arrive in this area within the next few days, which makes the need for local help nearly as high as at the national level. Evacuees who could soon be living literally across the street will look to UNCG, and other local universities, for a helping hand.

"The UNCG community wants to be involved," said Leslie Beach, "but the hope is, we can all respond in our own way."

Beach, who is organizing efforts around campus, works in the Office of Student Leadership. The multitude of efforts being made around the Greensboro campus in such a short time is tremendous. Events have been set up to accept donations of food, money, clothes, blood, and even time.

Inter-Fraternity Council (IFC), for

example, is working with the Alumni House to get canned food donation boxes throughout the campus, primarily in the residence halls. Donations go to Second Harvest Food Bank of Greensboro, which will later distribute them to evacuees living in the area.

Food is one of the most needed things at this point; however, Beach said, "Money is the biggest needed thing right now." This is primarily because the cost to store, sort and then distribute small donations is much greater than the cost to purchase items in large quantities and then distribute them.

Monetary donations can be made to relief agencies such as American Red Cross, Second Harvest Food

Bank, or the Salvation Army, as well as several other organizations that will put the money to good use. Deposits may be made directly to American Red Cross Greensboro Chapter's Hurricane Relief Department at two Carolina Bank locations: Lawndale and Friendly Center.

College students who are on a tight budget can volunteer, if nothing else, their time and energy. Food banks will need help collecting, sorting and delivering food in the area. Local radio stations are hosting donation drives all around Greensboro, where college students' help is always welcome. 102.1 Jams, a radio station

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DEVIN SINGLEY / THE CAROLINIAN

Decked out in their signature colors, the men of Omega Psi Phi were set up in the Elliott University Center on Friday, accepting donations of clothing and food for victims of Hurricane Katrina.

Hearing voices from the storm

Kathryn Kennedy
Managing Editor

This time last week, Antoinette Harris received calls from her husband's niece. The girl was panicked, frightened and holding a one-year-old while watching the water rise. Then the phone cut off.

Her brother-in-law, a sheriff's deputy, called while up to his chest in water that "reeked of death." He was guarding shackled prisoners in a cell and couldn't abandon his post.

Her father-in-law had just completed surgery and sent his wife to evacuate without him. He couldn't be reached by phone.

Since Aug. 29, when Hurricane Katrina made landfall in the Southeast, life has ranged from hectic to horrifying for Harris, an employee of the UNCG Cashier's Office.

Harris was born and raised in New Orleans, La. When she and her husband moved to North Carolina two years ago, they left behind countless

Continued on page 2

Wanna date?

A UNCG freshman has begun her own dating service. It costs \$5 and a bit of your time...if you're brave enough.

Sarah Richardson
Staff Writer

UNCG students now have another option for meeting friends and more-than-friends - and it's not "poking" and sending messages to strangers on Facebook.

Freshman Leigh Moser has created her own dating service, and she's trying to spread the word. She initially started attracting attention after hanging posters in dorms advertising her dating service.

"The poster was so cheesy," she said. "I loved it."

Her ad campaign came to a halt, however, when she was told that her posters were considered to be soliciting, which is prohibited in dorms. She was told to make announcements in class instead.

"I'm hoping the school will let me solicit more if I give a percentage of the funds to a charity, such as victims of Katrina," Moser said.

Even though she is no longer hanging posters, she noted, "People see me and ask, 'Are you the girl with the dating service?'"

The idea for the dating service began when Moser talked to some single friends who wondered what it would be like to be set up.

"They didn't really think much into it, but I thought some more about it," said Moser.

Moser knocked on the doors in her dorm, asking people what they would want from a dating service. Based on students' responses, she created a six-page survey that asks questions about a person and what the person wants from a relationship.

"You see all those eharmony.com commercials where they say they've found the love of their lives," she said. "I think it's better for a person than a computer to set you up."

In her survey, she asks a variety of questions including a person's religious and political views. The survey also asks about drinking, smoking, and after how many dates someone expects sex - something Moser considers a big indicator if a match will work or not.

"I think a lot of people are looking for a good time. They want a good experience. Some people want relationships, some people are just looking for friends. It varies on the person. Some girls want the man of their dreams, and I'm like..." she paused and laughed.

Moser includes "the long term questions, just in case." While she does ask "short-term questions" such as hobbies and interests, she thinks they will be discussed on the first date.

"I think the short-term stuff takes care of itself. I ask things like 'Is it important to be loyal in a long-term

relationship?' I don't ask questions about plans for marriage or kids or anything," she added, laughing again.

To fill out the survey, students must pay \$5. Moser said she thinks because paper is expensive, \$5 is a reasonable price.

"After all the printing, it's not going to be about money. It's going to be about the joy of setting people up."

Moser considers herself qualified

for the job because she connected some of her high school friends.

"I would tell friends, 'You guys would be cute together,' which is a high school thing to say, but I could take it to the next level."

She said only some of the couples are still together, but no one ever complained about having a bad time on the dates. Moser also thinks she's

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DEVIN SINGLEY / THE CAROLINIAN

Freshman Leigh Moser thinks you can be a member of a campus couple too - with her help.

Corrections

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STUDENTS AID VICTIMS

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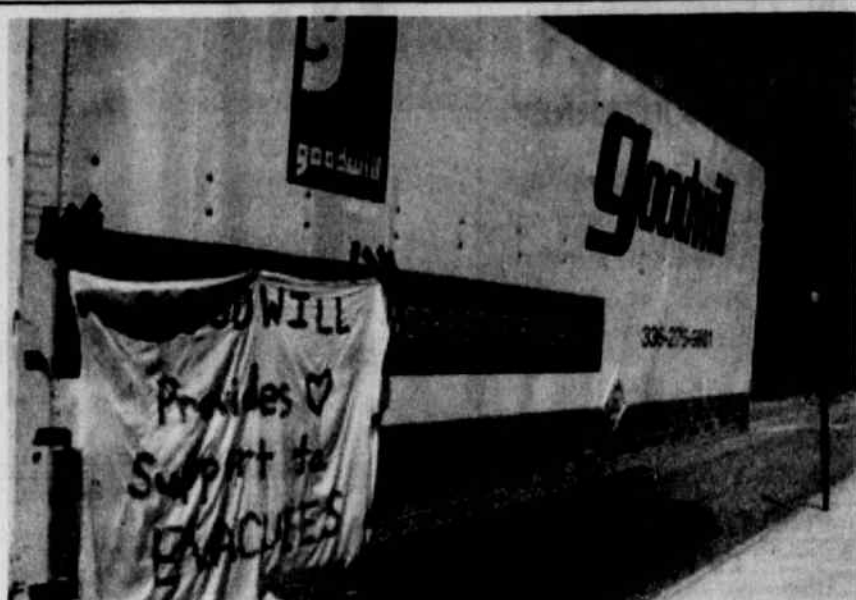
based in the Triad collected five trailers full of clothing, food, water, and other items to be sent to shelters across the nation in only a few short days at Wal-Mart on Wendover. Nearly all the work of sorting and packing the items was done by local volunteers, many of whom are UNCG students.

"We were all out driving around Greensboro, looking for a party. The radio was on 102 [Jams] and they were talking about needing help, that they had donations that needed packing," said student Jason Peppers. Peppers chose not to go out with his friends to the club, but instead to help rebuild lives. "I helped in a donation drive that will help these people who lost everything."

The American Red Cross is coordinating several different drives no other organization can. They have the inside of the Greensboro Coliseum prepared to house nearly 600 evacuees. They have the beds, the food preparation equipment, everything they need except for volunteers.

"The Red Cross is looking for anybody to help out," said Dan Fisher. "They especially need people who can listen."

There are about 140,000 people being cared for by the Red Cross. The number is expected to lower in the



MATT BLALOCK/THE CAROLINIAN

The Goodwill truck sat on Sterling Drive, between Walker Deck and the EUC for several days last week, accepting donations from UNCG students willing to give.

coming weeks.

Goodwill Industries has planned to provide locally housed evacuees with vouchers for clothes donated to them. There is a Goodwill truck parked in front of the Elliott University Center to accept donations of clothing between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m.

With the water beginning to recede in affected areas, there will also be a need for volunteers to continue clean up and restoring the life to countless streets and neighborhoods. The Red Cross is also beginning intensive dis-

aster training, which prepares people for the rigors of volunteering in places devastated in ways like the southeast is now. Trips to the Louisiana area are being planned for Spring Break.

Finally, there will be a campus blood drive, coordinated by the Red Cross on the 13th and 14th. Donors should call the School of Nursing to pre-register.

HEARING VOICES

Continued from page 1

family members - men and women who struggled to keep in touch during the raging storm.

"When the phones went out it made it very difficult and started a huge panic," Harris said. "The not-knowing was the hardest part. We didn't get calls from a lot of them (family members) until late Monday or Tuesday. It was just horrific, very scary."

She explained most relatives who didn't leave simply thought, "It's a hurricane. So what?" But this natural disaster outweighed their expectations.

"It's been a rollercoaster of a ride," Harris said, tearing up. "You get happy because you hear one is okay, but they still haven't managed to get out of New Orleans."

Harris drove down to Birmingham, Ala. Friday morning to pick up three nieces - ranging in age from third to eighth grade. They will be living in her house and attending Guilford County Schools until further notice. Meanwhile, their mother continues working and trying to get their lives back in order.

"She's a single mom and we've always been her support system," she said of her youngest sister. "Their house is probably destroyed. To give the kids normality is the most important thing. Right now, they're living in a hotel room. That's abnormal."

Despite the city's current state, Harris said she feels sure New Orleans will thrive and rebuild sooner than the rest of the nation is expecting. Come 2007, she'll be looking forward to Mardi Gras.

"I think it's going to take some time, but New Orleans people are hardheads. They refuse to die, they refuse to give up," she said. "I think it'll come back. It may not look the way it used to look, but it will be the way it used to be."

WANNA DATE?

Continued from page 1

Moser also thinks she's good for matchmaking because she has a boyfriend with the characteristics she wants, so she knows what to ask people.

Her boyfriend lives an hour away, which she says isn't far, but it's still difficult. Because of the distance and their conflicting schedules, she only sees him once a week. This is one more reason she said her dating service is a good option - students will

meet people who attend the same school.

"When you go to the same school, you can at least find one part of your day to meet up. Then you don't have to give up, and you have the choice to pursue it."

Moser hopes she is able to spread the word so she can make more matches. She wants to receive applications from at least 50 people for more compatible possibilities.

"I try to urge people to take chances," she said. "You never know. The chance might pass you by."

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Laptops required by 2007

Rick Richards
Staff Writer

Though you may not know it, UNCG is well on its way to becoming a wireless campus. Wireless connections are already available for laptops in the Bryan, Moore, and Curry buildings as well as the EUC.

By fall 2006, all academic buildings and freshmen dorms, as well as common areas, are scheduled to have wireless access for UNCG students. By fall 2007, all dorms will have wireless access and incoming freshmen will be required to buy (or lease) laptops that meet school specifications which, of course, will involve

them being able to access the wireless network.

Many students may be used to choosing their own PC or Mac to bring to campus with them, however this new plan by Academic Affairs, in conjunction with Information Technology and Planning, would require students to all own the same computers - probably Windows-based PCs - eliminating students' choice in the matter. This may trouble some students who use specific programs on their computer and want something more powerful as well as those who don't use the computer too often and would prefer a cheaper solution.

Mandated computer models would provide benefits to both computer technicians and students, said IT. By working with a controlled group of computers, IT would know of common problems and not have to learn a student's particular set-up over the phone, saving students valuable time in troubleshooting. If a severe troubleshooting problem arose, IT would have the option of keeping a surplus of duplicate machines to replace the student's broken one, and the student would not have to learn to use a new set-up.

The computers would also be guaranteed to work on the campus wireless network, meaning problems, such as not having the proper operating system for dorm access or having a computer not capable of running academic software required for a student's major, would cease to exist.

IT and the academic depart-



DEVIN SINGLEY/THE CAROLINIAN

Devon Schronce, a freshman at UNCG, sets up his laptop connection in the EUC. He may need a new one in 2007 to meet new IT regulations.

ments/schools on campus would also be able to regulate pre-loaded software - programs that are on the computer before it ever reaches the student's hands. This means there may be an increase of computer usage in traditionally non-computer-related majors, as faculty would have the benefit of knowing that all of their students can run a particular program. If this happens, students might incur extra charges for switching majors, however, this would not be much different than having to purchase new basic level textbooks for a different major.

Support for these laptops is planned to be primarily based at the university - because of the limited types of machines the technicians would have to work with, they could seek certification to allow them to do work on students' computers that would usually require sending it back to the manufacturer. However, support would only be provided for a

limited amount of time. This period or, as IT calls it, "lifecycle" could be anywhere from two to four years.

When the computer is no longer supported, as it would be considered "out of date," the student would theoretically have the option of trading it in for credit on the newly designated required unit or keeping it and purchasing another that would be supported on campus.

These changes can clearly add stress to both the student and their budget, but with technology rapidly evolving and becoming more prevalent in every aspect of students' lives, this plan may decrease oncoming anxiety from software and hardware choices the student must make. Still, with many UNCG students commuting to campus and relying on the labs - many struggling with the rising costs of gas, school, and texts - will the benefits of a wireless laptop be worth the cost?

WUAG's CONCERT UPDATE SEPTEMBER 13-19

Tuesday, September 13th

- Lest Vegas / Thunderlip / The Swayback @ Kings, Raleigh
- Shannon O'Connor CD Release Party @ Cats Cradle, Carrboro
- (Cat's Cradle Presents) Will Hoge @ Local 506, Chapel Hill
- The Cassettes / TBA @ The Nightlight, Chapel Hill

Wednesday, September 14th

- Juliana Theory / Lovedrug / Daysaway / The Goodwill @ Cats Cradle, Carrboro
- Pee-Lander-Z (from Japan) / Art Lord and the Self-Portraits / Bang! Bang! @ Local 506, Chapel Hill
- Blue Whiskey / The Dave Fox Group / TBA @ Greene Street
- Tad Dreis / Shwa / Taylor Davis @ The Nightlight, Chapel Hill

Thursday, September 15th

- Mike Doughty's Band / Chris Glover @ Cats Cradle, Carrboro
- Modern Life: Britpop/Mod/UK Indie Dance Night featuring: Aircraft @ Local 506, Chapel Hill
- FEAR OF MUSIC SERIES SHOW: Andy Mabe / Burke @ The Garage, Winston Salem
- Midnight Sun / Brite Boy @ Kings, Raleigh

Friday, September 16th

- Jump Little Children / Jim Boggia / Farewell Tour @ Ziggy's, Winston Salem
- Carbon Leaf @ Cats Cradle, Carrboro
- Pleasant CD Release Party / The Sames / North Elementary @ Local 506, Chapel Hill
- Winning Looks / Des Ark / Robospian / Rachel Lee Walsh @ The Nightlight, Chapel Hill

Saturday, September 17th

- Junior Brown (country) @ Ziggy's, Winston Salem
- Billy Price @ Cats Cradle, Carrboro
- Domino Recording Artist: Four Tet / Kouahik / Cyne @ Local 506, Chapel Hill
- This Day and Age / The Spill Canvas / Mashlin / Thin Dark Line @ Ace's Basement

- The Rounders / The Truckstop Preachers @ The Garage, Winston Salem
- U.S. Banshee / Baskettree / Deertick / TBA @ The Nightlight, Chapel Hill

Sunday, September 18th

- Rasputina / Tarantula A.D. @ Cats Cradle, Carrboro
- Nebula / Leadfoot @ Local 506, Chapel Hill
- In Pieces / Marigold (ex-This Day Forward) @ Ace's Basement
- Slim Francis / The Cassettes @ Greene Street

Monday, September 19th

- Doves / Longways @ Cats Cradle, Carrboro
- The Makos @ Local 506, Chapel Hill

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Read next week's *Carolinian* for words from IT as well as student reactions to the upcoming laptop and wireless requirements. More information is available to the public at <http://www.uncg.edu/apl/>.

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OPINIONS

Coming Next Issue:

Look for more commentary from
fellow students!

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2005

Letters to the Editor

Free newspapers for all?

In response to the topic "The Allure of Newspapers" in the column The Right Angle:

Free newspapers for all?! What a warm communist notion from such a celebrated right-winger.

Ms. Westmoreland, with taxpayers already footing the bill for your welfare in the form of financial aid, do you really expect UNCG to shell out more funds for communal newspapers? Those are precious tax dollars that could be siphoned back into the federal government to fund pro-American propaganda newspapers in our 51st state, Iraq.

I think you may be on to something when you state that newspaper companies are in danger of losing future generations of readers to the Internet and TV. What you have missed, however, is that newspaper companies are already aware that they are fighting a losing battle. This is probably the reason they suspended the provision of freebies. Much like the payphone, newspapers are

being rendered obsolete.

Ah, such is the way of the free market, the strongest survive (or conquer and destroy) and everyone else is reduced to minimum wage-earning oxen. Isn't that the revered mantra of the Republican party? You should feel triumphant that the system is working.

In the meantime, maybe you should stop asking for government handouts and free promotions and get a job to support your paper habit. Obviously the newspaper business is not working out, but I've seen signs up at Wendy's. They offer a healthy minimum wage.

Or you can visit yet another fading staple in the information business, the library. How much do you want to gamble that they have all the daily publications your red heart can bear? 50 cents? Make it a New York Times even dollar.

Denise Jones
Spartan TV

Hurricane Katrina relief efforts

The situation caused by Hurricane Katrina is overwhelmingly an unnatural, man-made disaster. Where the hell was the response of the federal government?

I believe the events unfolding in the South as we speak have ripped the façade off a rotten system. The underlying nature of the American political system has been exposed for what it is - a racist, classist, unequal system that only benefits the arrogant politicians. The real problems are the racism and class inequality behind what happened in New Orleans and surrounding areas. It's not a coincidence that African-Americans and poor people were the ones left behind - left to die! - in these cities.

This is a disaster that could've been avoided. The impact of a direct hit from a Category 4 or 5 hurricane on below-sea-level New Orleans has been known for years, and in the mid-1990s, the federal government ordered a massive construction project to shore up levees and build pumping stations. But as of this year, \$250 million in crucial projects remained undone, including work on the levee near the 17th Street canal, on the north side of the city - the very point of the main breach that

swamped New Orleans.

This is outrageous, and considering how cold-hearted and uncaring the Bush Administration has been in response to this tragedy - i.e. from Bush's mile-high flyover of the disaster scene, to Dick Cheney's refusal to end his vacation, to Condoleezza Rice's shopping trip for \$7,000 shoes - it's time for regular people, who really do care about the victims of Katrina, to take action!

Please donate to help the people of the Gulf Coast region:

a. The People's Hurricane Fund c/o The Young People's Project, 99 Bishop Allen Drive, Cambridge, MA 02139

b. AFL-CIO, online donations: <http://www.aflcio.org/>

c. NAACP: <https://www.naacp.org/disaster/contribute.php>

Also, for those who want to get involved in relief efforts and organizing speakouts, etc. contact julie_southerland@yahoo.com.

-Julie Southerland
Int'l Socialist Organization, Relief Effort Coordinator

Hurricane Katrina: Pride, shame, and television news



OUT OF MY HEAD

Joe Killian
Life Editor

Ask anyone and they'll tell you - I hate television news.

I hate the cute little chats at the anchor desk. I hate the dominance of feel-good feature stories and the faux-investigative pieces on what your grocery store is REALLY selling you. More than anything I hate the way so many Americans are content to flop down on their couches with a bag of potato chips and settle for the watered down, sound-bite versions of stories they could have read in newspapers days earlier.

But in the last week, as I watched the devastation and aftermath of hur-

ricane Katrina on the Gulf Coast, I unexpectedly found myself in tears before my television - and understood, suddenly, the real potency of well-done TV news.

It hadn't happened for me during the Iraq war. My father, a Marine, was fighting there and my great frustration was how chipper, awe-struck and congratulatory TV news seemed throughout the invasion. My father had been in Desert Storm and Kosovo and I'd spent a summer interviewing the young soldiers coming back from this war. What I saw on television didn't jive at all with what I heard firsthand - the anger and fear of military families, the terrible things the men on the ground had to see and do and, as Iraq became more and more a quagmire, the frustration and disappointment of the men who'd had to fight this war and now wondered why.

None of that was apparent in even the best TV news at the time - and they're just coming to deal with it now, glimpsing the dust-cloud of the print journalists far ahead of them in the distance.

But, while there was initially a good deal of "Wow, look at that" destruction-porn on TV during Katrina I was struck, this time, with how real, immediate and unforgiving TV news can be.

While we were told help was on its way and politicians congratulated each other on TV we were also treated to real-time images of bloated, twisted bodies stacked beneath sheets in the corners of hospitals where the sickest had to be allowed to die. We saw mothers arrested for stealing to feed their children. We saw evacuees herded like cattle into inhuman conditions, held there by force to wait for the rescue that was, for many, too late. Perhaps most surprisingly we saw cold veteran TV journalists - from FOX News' Geraldo Rivera and Shepard Smith to CNN's Anderson Cooper - lose it in the face of the tragedy and demand answers from those in power on live TV. And, inevitably, we saw those in power without the answers.

I'd been watching for two days before I called my mother to take her temperature on the whole thing. I found her shaking, angry, near tears after having been convinced by my father not to load her car with food, water, baby formula and medicine and just begin driving south. He had been with a Marine unit doing relief work after Hurricane Andrew in Florida and, he told her, she wouldn't make it. Even if she could get enough gas that far South - and she couldn't - they wouldn't let her into the area. So, foiled in her attempt to do what our government should have been doing for its people, she gathered donations, felt powerless and became very angry. A lifelong Republican who voted twice against Bill Clinton, my mother's undergone something of a political conversion over the last few years - courtesy of George W. Bush.

Which is why she was livid when a photo-op with Bush looking down

on the devastation from Air Force One backfired. The mayor of New Orleans questioned why he was flying from his extended vacation in Texas to Washington without so much as stopping to survey the damage to a city far more ravaged than New York after September 11th. It drove my mother mad that our president, always on the scene to celebrate with troops or proclaim our nation's great courage at the scene of terrorist attacks, wouldn't be seen on the ground until he could be photographed with victims who'd been saved as trucks full of food were unloaded.

But, luckily, some high-profile Americans of means were using both their money and fame to get into the trenches and shed a little light on the grim reality of the last week. John Travolta piloted his own personal jet - filled with Tetanus vaccine and other supplies - into the area it was needed most. Sean Penn chartered a boat and got out on the diseased water, pulling people out of their flooded homes next to Red Cross volunteers. Harry Connick Jr. was walking through the flooded streets of his hometown, carrying weakened victims on his back as he boated past his father's house - or what was left of it.

And then there were the ordinary Americans - the non-celebrities who put their lives on hold to be bussed in by the hundreds to volunteer, to do what they could once they were allowed. As some churches preached that God had wiped New Orleans from the face of the Earth as punishment for homosexuality, prostitution, Mardi Gras and Girls Gone Wild, others - including the N.C. Baptist Men's Group - were sending in volunteers to do what all Christians should be doing.

"You know, it's funny," my mother said a week after the tragedy. "In a way I've never been prouder of the American people, or more ashamed of my government."

And then, swollen with pride and shrinking with shame, she went back to doing the only thing she could do. She went back to the television - wishing she could turn it off but feeling she shouldn't look away.

The perils of feminine body image



The Weird Girl

Kitty Campbell
Opinions Editor

How many of you ladies out there have a drawer or a section of your closet reserved for your "skinny clothes"? Come on, admit it - I know I'm not the only one.

Like a lot of young women, I've struggled with my body image since I hit puberty. It seemed like just as I got tall enough to grow into my five extra pounds, I gained five or ten more. Of course, looking back I realize that I was never actually fat. As some girls say, I had a few "vanity pounds" - although the reality of that statement is also questionable. No matter what my weight or waist size, I always felt like I could stand to be thinner. As a senior still trying to discard my Freshman Fifteen, I have to admit I still feel that way.

I'm not proud of my body image problem. I wish I could be like those curvy-and-proud women in the Dove commercials and just enjoy my damn Little Debbie cakes. But between the constant bombardment of pop culture urging me to be smooth and firm, and the well-intentioned harping of the medical world on maintaining a healthy weight, I just can't convince myself I'm fine the way I am. One of the most frustrating things in the

world is recognizing your own neuroses and yet not being able to talk yourself out of them.

I'm better off than some young women. I have never had an eating disorder, and never had the willpower to force myself to stick to a way-too-restrictive diet program. No matter how much I wanted to lose weight, I have never truly hated my body or tried to wage war against it. Most of the time, I'm even pretty fond of it, extra jiggles and all. But I still want it to shrink.

My "skinny clothes" are mostly relics of my high school years that became too small after my freshman year living in the dorm. (The Freshman Fifteen, I hate to tell you, is not a complete myth.) In combination with my hopes to one day fit into them again, my pack-rat tendencies and cheapskate bias against throwing out good clothes have preserved these few-inches-too-small reminders of how UN-fat I was in high school. If I could go back in time, I would smack my high-school self for lamenting the "extra pounds" I was sure I had. They really only existed in my imagination.

Which brings me to the present. Sometimes I wonder if I'm not imagining my supposed "need" to lose weight just like I did in high school. Unfortunately, the fact that my height didn't gain as many inches as my waist after graduation makes that seem like wishful thinking. The good news is that I feel my nearly 22-year-old mind is handling my body image

issues much more maturely than my 15-year-old mind did. I can joke about my love handles and seriously not need reassurance that I look great. My talk about exercise and losing weight doesn't indicate an obsession, but an interest in my overall health. And with my mature outlook has come some true willpower - I can control what and how much I eat without depriving myself into binge-eating.

I'll tell you a secret: I've lost about 15 pounds in the past year and a half. I attribute that weight loss to a combination of healthy vegetarian eating and getting off my butt to exercise more. I'm even closing in on my high school weight, and I might be just weeks away from squeezing into my skinny clothes. Those too-tight pants and skirts that might be a painful reminder for some are an inspiration for me. I know that if I was once healthy at that size, I can be that healthy size again.

My skinny clothes are helpful in another way too: they will tell me when enough is enough. I realize now that I was never fat in high school - at the most I could have stood to exercise more for the sake of my cardiovascular health, not my weight. Gaining weight in college has shown me how screwed up my body image used to be, and taught me to appreciate what I have. When I finally wriggle into those size-10 jeans, I'll know that whatever weight remains is not extra. It does not mean I'm fat.

It just means baby got back.

Kitty Campbell's column, *The Weird Girl*, explores the quirks of modern politics and culture. You can read more from her at www.kittycampbell.blogspot.com.

Joe Killian's column, *Out of my Head*, is in its fourth year. You can check out more of Joe's writing at www.joekillian.blogspot.com.

Melissa Westmoreland
Staff Writer

I had heard about this from several members, and finally went up to the office to check it out. A CR had cleared off the back wall that the other group had "reserved," and there was nothing but a "Bring Them Home" postcard hanging now. That is, of course, to be expected. I was fairly surprised, however, to find a pro-abortion flier taped to the top of the AWC's cabinet. The flier adver-

You can read Melissa's blog at www.livejournal.com/~thatpoliscinerd.

But, if you, or someone you love, were raped at gunpoint, for example, Plan B could help make sure the rape victim doesn't get pregnant as a result. The problem is that Plan B

In her letter of resignation, Dr.



Brad Stutts
Staff Writer

Nevertheless, with the cool autumn breeze soon replacing the blistering summer sun, I humbly return to you a fatter guy in a littler coat who feels more out of place in this whole microcosm than ever before. I really feed off vibes and I

Now that I do feel better about my personal situations and my spot in life in general, I still really don't like being around negative people because I don't like that stench getting stuck on me. As fate would have it, my best friend is one of the most perpetually negative people I know and that does make for some Instant Messenger conversations that make me want to pull my hair out. He and I tend to feed off each other's energy - which is another reason I like to stay

Whether you are stuck in Spanish 102 for a second time because you failed your first attempt by two-tenths of a point (like me); or you're sick to death of missing your girl because she has obligations that keep her where she's from (five hours away) rather than here with her partner; or even if you're the person who can't be where they want to be. No matter where you've been placed in this life and no matter what deity you chose to place stock in, there is very little randomness in this universe. You are where you are today for a reason. And you will be where you are tomorrow for a reason too. So just put your faith in the assurance that things will work out the way they are intended, and believe again. I've found it takes a great deal of the pressure off things.

Brad Stutts's colum, Fat Guy in a Little Coat, is in its second year.

Maybe you will never need Plan B, but this is not only about this one product. Every time a new medical product is approved by the FDA from now on, whether a vaccine, a

Diana Zuckerman is president of the National Research Center for Women & Families. Readers may write to her via e-mail at dz@center4research.org. Web site: www.center4research.org.

**No unsigned letters will be printed.
Please note our Editorial Policy on page 4.**

Juke Joint Series Resides at Weatherspoon

Photographer Birney Imes speaks on conversing with his camera and his Mississippian subjects

Travis Diehl
Staff Writer

Birney Imes makes good photographs. Nearly every slide shown at the Weatherspoon art talk this past Thursday met with muffled cries from breathtaken patrons. The blacks are black, the whites white, the grain of his medium-format film impeccable. Imes' interiors leave no doubt about his deft use of quartz lighting to accent natural ambience. His figures' faces are sincere, momentary, finely lined and intensely comfortable. Those present were entranced. They wanted the history. They wanted the culture. They wanted symbolism, significance, some overarching implication. Instead, they got photographs.

The "Juke Joint" series does not originate from any grand design. "It was just something that happened," says Imes from the lecture hall podium. Born in the segregated South, the artist was only dimly aware of the rich culture subsisting in the delta swamps and farmland - "the world that spawned the blues." For Imes, his photos are a "conversation with a camera," a warm Southern visit with friends old and new. His early black and white portrait work reflects a curious reverence towards his rural Mississippi subjects. He immerses himself in the delta culture. One black and white photo peers out of the baptismal waters at a horseshoe of witnesses, heads bowed, in their sopping Sunday best. The naked eyes of the baptized stare down the camera.

Imes continued to seek the places people came to congregate. Often, these were juke joints. These are the community centers, the watering holes, and the concert halls rolled into one. He soon became more interested in the space itself. The photographs have the amused quality of looking, of constructing an image whenever the desire arises. Imes enters an establishment, sits down for a sandwich, chats with the locals as he unpacks his unwieldy equipment. He looks around for a shot that strikes him. His work is less about proving or understanding than it is about collecting. Imes collects people, collects stories, and collects juke joints. He photographs what he finds interesting. Those looking for stronger conceptual fiber woven between his images should look elsewhere.

So, what do the decorations mean? The audience wants to know. What is the reasoning behind these colorful, alien interiors? One woman raises her hand and suggests the décor may have roots in the voodoo culture of nearby Haiti. Imes shrugs. But the spots? The red and green and black patterns of spray-painted splashes adorning the walls, ceilings and chairs in several of the clubs? Doubtless, there's a story there. Imes, however, is no historian and can only attribute this recurring motif to its cheapness and conceptual ease. Half-empty cans of red spray paint must be abundant in the area, and spots must be easy to do.

What about Katrina? Surely the recent hurricane has impacted his work, his subjects, and his life. Surely these picturesque plywood shacks were tossed around like matchsticks. The photos themselves seem on the rickety verge of collapse, vulnerable to the viewer's lightest puff. Surely the slow-spoken artist was sent scrambling for meaning with the rest. But the terrifying majesty of hurricane winds held no sway in the world of Imes' juke joints, some safe two-hundred miles north of the Gulf. Instead, these places die the steady death of time.

cont. on page 7

Review - The NC Dance Festival

Anthony Ridge
Staff Writer

The fall season made a grande jete of celebrating 15 years of the North Carolina Dance Festival, with UNCG hosting the premier of six events to be performed throughout the State until February 2006. They say that all good things come in threes, and an array of Triad Dancers were the first to take to the floor for three nights of dance at the UNCG Dance Theater.

The first piece, CHARACTER by Daniel Gwirtzman, performed soulfully and with elegance by Duane Cyrus (Assistant Professor at UNCG, credits including some of the finest modern dance companies in the US), showed off Cyrus' soft lines and rhythmical musicality. The choreography, however, did not quite grasp the essence of the music by Louis Armstrong.

Cyrus stole the stage in TRAVELLER, A Dream of Running where he appeared spotlighted center stage and costumed in a haunting mask, the word "recurring" repeating over and over on a soundtrack accompanied by sounds of running and panting. The most innovative work of the evening, the dance addressed the nocturnal experience of the recurring dream. TRAVELLER was a slick and professional dance.

Another work, TRY ANGLES, had a promising title but did not deliver; the choreography was flat and predictable with movement motifs that have been regurgitated too many times. It would have been more successful as a duet as one dancer's inertia interrupted the potential moments of unison.

The real treat was a solo choreographed and performed by Eluza Santos. BY REASON OF CAVAQUINHO emitted a contemporary and Latin flavor and Santos' athletic and artistic performance was accentuated by a grounded floor technique and her commitment to projecting a message of womanhood. Her very striking performance was mature and confident with thoughtful artistry.

The second night of dance was dominated by the work of Robin Harris, an award-winning artist from Raleigh. She opened the show with GOODBYE SADNESS danced by Megan Marvel who performed all four of Harris' works. This first piece at least contained something that resembled dance, but it was down hill from there. Her subsequent attempts included props such as snowboards, but the choreography failed to progress these ideas. One so called "dance" was a baton-twirling catastrophe; not worthy to enter the genre of modern dance or even physical theater, just a clumsy attempt at art.

Gerri Houlihan was the first to really explore the space with a provocative number, MORANGO. Stunning bodylines were performed by Brad Parquette in this gentle, sexy duet with flawless lifts and caressing partner work.

The highlight of night two's choreographic talent was proudly shared by the UNCG contingent - two works by Niki Juralewicz (UNCG Dance Teacher) and one awesome tapestry of movement by Jan Van Dyke (UNCG Prof. of Dance). Juralewicz's display was bold and postmodern with use of projections

cont. on page 7



A scene from Craig Thompson's graphic novel, *Blankets*.

The Art of the Comic Book

Chris Lowrance discusses the growing art of comics and the flak it catches from the art world

Chris Lowrance
Executive Editor

Pablo Picasso drew comics.

Well, a comic, at least. Titled "The Dream and the Lie of Franco," the 1937 work is a two-page series of panels depicting a gross caricature of the Spanish Dictator in a loosely structured narrative.

"The Dream and the Lie" is a comic, a series of images meant for viewing in a deliberate sequence to convey a meaning that, if separated, they would not have. Even if you define comics as "a bunch of pictures in little boxes on a page," Picasso's work fits.

So why won't the art world admit it?

Art historians say the work was "influenced" by American comic strips. They call it "a series of cartoon-like panels," or "almost caricature-like." But they never call it "a comic."

It could be that the art world is afraid to sully the name of its most famous and celebrated icon by attaching him to something as "low-brow" as comics. To most, "comics" means fat orange cats or violent power-fantasies about guys in tights. The stuff summer-blockbusters are made of, to be sure, but not good art.

Which is a lot like judging all novels based on the "Left Behind" series, or all music on AC/DC's Greatest Hits album.

Comics have the potential to be much more than just super-heroes and Sunday funnies. It's an art form, no less legitimate than prose or film. Like any art form, if you look hard enough, you'll find creators doing amazing things with it.

It's an art form, no less legitimate than prose or film.

Take the two-part graphic novel *Maus*, by Art Spiegelman, which won a Pulitzer Prize in 1991. *Maus* tells the true story of how Spiegelman's Jewish father survived the Holocaust, and how the author survived learning the story from him. It interweaves the battle to survive Nazi-occupied Poland with Spiegelman's battle to understand his aging father and the decisions he has made.

Maus's power lies in its use of comics' most valuable asset: the visual metaphor. Spiegelman chooses to represent the Jewish characters as mice, and the Nazis as cats, in a very simple expressionistic style. This victim/aggressor model works well for one of history's most black-and-white dualities, but Spiegelman allows it to break down naturally as the story becomes more complicated and his father's morality is drawn increasingly into question. By the beginning of the second half, the characters become humans - their simple animal faces are just masks. The power of visual metaphor is more subtly applied in *Blankets*, Craig Thompson's 582-page story about childhood, first love, and loss of faith. Thompson's narrative flows as elegantly as his brush strokes, aided by his repetition of key visual elements. The patterns of a lover's quilt become symbols of the sacred, weaving themselves into the reader's vocabulary until context is no longer needed. We can read the symbols as surely as the words on this page.

Thompson is also a master of visual rhythm, utilizing comics' unique ability to convey tiny moments within a narrative. Comics give their reader a chance to stop and absorb such scenes, whereas film would barrel ahead, beyond the viewer's control. *Blankets* is built on moments that make us pause - scenes of lonely figures on opposite ends of a phone line and desperate couples embracing amid a swirling blizzard.

Comics lend themselves well to intensely personal storytelling, as both *Maus* and *Blankets* reveal. This is because, unlike prose-narrative,

wherein the reader can form his own imagery based on the text, comics present the creator's imagery, exactly as he or she chose to present it.

Comics share this quality with film; however, unlike film, the comic's creator does not fully dominate the reader's experience. The comic's reader can spend as much time in each scene as desired. He or she must also interpret sound, dialogue, and movement for his- or herself, and fill in the events between panels and images based only on context.

This places the comics narrative somewhere between the prose narrative's complete dependence on, and film's complete control over, the audience. The comics reader sees more of the creator's intention, but is still engaged in the process of interpreting that intention. The result is a story that contains more of the teller, without excluding the reader.

Art Spiegelman and Craig Thompson are only two of the numerous creators currently working to create challenging new comics. Other published creators to look for include Chris Ware, Joe Sacco, Marjane Satrapi, Gilbert and Jaime Hernandez, Jessica Abel, and Scott McCloud, to name just a few. Online there is almost a whole new world of comics - a good introduction to the best web-comics can be found on Scott McCloud's site (scottmccloud.com, click on "links").

Picasso wasn't slumming when he put pen to paper in 1937. He was actually taking a brief stroll into an entirely new art form, one that has only begun to glimpse its full potential in the last few decades. As comics become more and more accepted, who knows? Maybe the next great modern artist will be a cartoonist.

Check out page ten of the new *Life* section for the first installment of the regular comic book column, *Words and Pictures*.

15 Years, The North Carolina Dance

Rachel Brown
Staff Writer

As of September 7, 2005, all of the Wednesday "tech" rehearsals had ended and the dancers were prepared for the following night's performance. However ready they may have been, neither dancer nor choreographer could rest easy. September 8 was only the first of several perform-

ances to sweep the area over the next five months.

UNCG hosted the first North Carolina Dance Festival (NCDF) performances of the 2005-06 season September 8 through 10. Touring in six commu-

nities across North Carolina, the festival hosts several area choreographers, six of which have either been professors, adjunct professors or graduates of the UNCG Dance Department.

The Festival began in 1991 when UNCG dance Professor Jan Van Dyke coordinated a weekend performance for a few area performers and choreographers to showcase their work at UNCG. Before developing the idea she, being a new professor in

the Dance Department, conversed with former Department Chair John Gamble about ways to get students more involved in the dance community.

"We thought, how can we get more energy in North Carolina for dance? And how can we get our students to see more dance?" Van Dyke said. It was then that the idea of a community performance held in UNCG's dance theater developed.

"We have this wonderful theater

Hurricane Katrina Silences Legendary Jazz City

One trumpeter speaks on the dim prospects of New Orleans cultural recovery

Howard Reich

Chicago Tribune (KRT)

When the brilliant Chicago trumpeter Maurice Brown moved to Louisiana four years ago, he dreamed of becoming a star in the mythic birthplace of jazz: New Orleans. He quickly achieved that goal, but after fleeing the city at 2 a.m. Sunday he believes he has lost everything but his life.

"It's all gone. I saw on TV where my whole neighborhood is flooded out," said Brown, speaking from the truck of a friend, who was driving him back home to his parents' house in Harvey, Ill.

Hurricane Katrina not only has taken lives and destroyed home and possessions, it has placed in peril the world's most famous jazz city, a town where international tourists clamor to hear jubilant brass bands and where jazz stars such as Nicholas Payton and Ellis Marsalis nightly ignite the music that Louis Armstrong made famous.

From the Technicolor portraits of Jelly Roll Morton and the great Satchmo that greet visitors at Louis Armstrong International Airport to the street musicians who riff "When the Saints Go Marching In" day and night on raucous Bourbon Street, New Orleans has been indelibly bound up with music and revelry for more than a century.

"Great jazz and great food are so deeply imbedded into the culture of New Orleans, you just can't imagine the city without them," said Chicago author Timuel Black, whose book "Bridges of Memory" traces the great migration of Southern blacks to Chicago.

"Jazz goes from one generation to another in New Orleans, passed down from musician to musician," he added, pointing to New Orleans' most famous jazz dynasty, the Marsalises (pianist Ellis is father to trumpeter Wynton, saxophonist Branford, trombonist Delfeayo and drummer Jason). "Jazz and Creole food," added Black, "are New Orleans."

But the city's cultural identity has been threatened by Hurricane Katrina, the floodwaters silencing world-famous clubs such as Preservation Hall, inside the historic French Quarter, and Snug Harbor, just outside it. The dozens of New Orleans clubs featuring jazz, blues, rock, funk and whatnot — as well as the upscale and down-home restaurants that cater to the music lovers — long have made the French Quarter and the emerging entertainment district on nearby Frenchmen Street tourist draws.

It was certainly the city's thriving cultural scene, as well as its storied musical history, that drew Brown there in the first place.

Although jazz musicians more typically leave New Orleans to take on

bigger cities, such as Chicago and New York, Brown was smitten by the city's relaxed ambience and musical legacy.

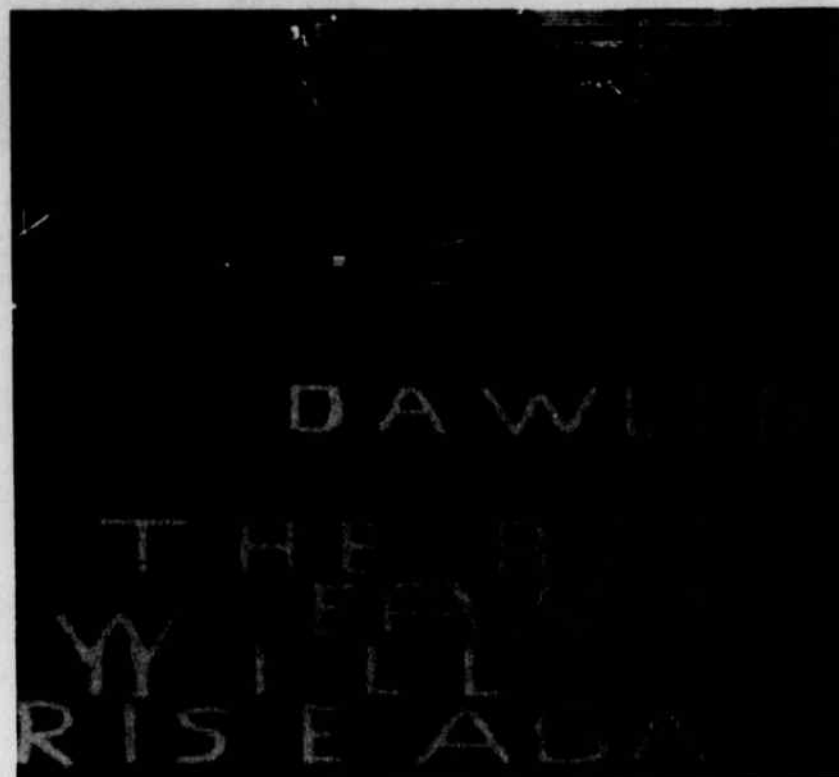
"It's the whole feeling I got here that made me want to stay for a while," Brown, 24, told the Chicago Tribune last year between sets at Snug Harbor, the city's top contemporary jazz room.

Last year Brown released a stunning, made-in-New-Orleans debut CD, "Hip to Bop," and two weeks ago he played at the Green Mill Jazz Club, in Chicago's Uptown neighborhood.

It was an indelible moment for a musician who never had taken a private trumpet lesson in his life. Having immersed himself in music by playing in bands at Markham Park Elementary School and Hillcrest High School in Country Club Hills, he rapidly became one of Chicago's more talked-about trumpeters while a teenager.

After a brief stint at Northern Illinois University in DeKalb, he joined legendary trumpeter Clark Terry on the road, then enrolled in Southern University in Baton Rouge in 2001 and immediately began playing New Orleans' famous clubs. In short order, his picture began appearing on the covers of local music magazines, and he won a coveted, weekly gig at Snug Harbor.

After performing Saturday evening in one of New Orleans' most



SMILEY N. POOL/DALLAS MORNING NEWS (KRT)

NEW ORLEANS, LA -- A message left on the roof of an evacuated building in New Orleans on Saturday afternoon, Sept. 10

fabled clubs, Tipitina's, Brown and the rest of the room were hurriedly evacuated.

Brown quickly drove to his home in the Tremé neighborhood, grabbed a trumpet, flugelhorn, laptop and "enough clothes for four or five days." He then took his retooled 1989 Cadillac Brougham to a parking garage in suburban Metairie, where he left it for safekeeping, and jumped into his friend's truck to proceed to higher ground in Memphis.

Though Brown said he's grateful that he got out in time, he nevertheless grieves for what he has left behind.

"My whole recording studio, tons

of music, a lot of original scores that I can't ever get back, maybe 50 or 60 tunes I spent years working on — all gone," said Brown.

He estimates the losses, which are uninsured, at \$50,000, and he believes that his car has been sunk as well.

Still, Brown realizes he's one of the lucky ones.

"But I'm not sure if I'm ever going to live in New Orleans again — I'm going to build a new foundation for my life," he said.

"I don't know if I'll move back to Chicago or try New York, but it may be over in New Orleans."

THE CONCERT GOER...



REID HAITHCOCK/THE CAROLINIAN



REID HAITHCOCK/THE CAROLINIAN

Baleen (top), a five piece from Charlotte, played with Joe Fain (bottom), a Greensboro four piece and Taradactyl at Greene Street, September 8.

Dance Review-cont. from p.6

and music for this millennium — a rarity for a festival biased towards classical music.

Jan Van Dyke cleverly crafted her dancers in MIRROR RIM (2004), a conventional but organic evolution of released movement to powerful stag jumps displayed by four technical and expressive dancers. By far MIRROR RIM was a brilliant use of space and movement vocabulary, incorporating a justified classical score of soft strings with a plucked harp — a passionate and nurtured piece.

The final evening presented an eclectic mix for the audience. The Nick Walk Dance Project, a group of five girls, performed with strong release technique, intimately melting into exploratory floor work with good use of repetition and well developed group work.

Martha Connerton's pedestrian performance involved good use of props and a comical artistry. The performers were well composed and the relationship ideas well explored, but it became a repetitive and tiring work with an immensely slow trajectory. The husband and wife act of B.J. & Sean Sullivan was a pleasure to witness. The duet focused on the interaction of the male/female relation-

An Exercise in Exorcism

A sneak preview of *The Exorcism of Emily Rose* leaves reviewer wanting more

James Hodge

Staff Writer

The movie pass was free, the theater was packed, and the crowd was enthusiastic to see *The Exorcism of Emily Rose*. 102 JAMZ, the local radio station hosting the screening certainly did a fine job promoting the pseudo-event.

Before I go any further I have to say, what a great title for a movie—*The Exorcism of Emily Rose*. It just rolls off your tongue.

Anyway, props to 102 JAMZ. Your intro before the show was funny and thanks to you, over three quarters of the crowd actually turned off their phones when you threatened expulsion from the movie if anyone was caught simply looking at the clock on their phone. I wish before every movie two large men would walk down the aisles and make similar threats. That prepackaged, throw your trash away, turn off your phone and eat milk duds thing is never as effective as two guys who look like they could snap you in two, telling you that if you are caught answering your phone you will be dragged by the hair from the theater. They acted as if they were joking, but there was a real sense that they would carry through if necessary.

ship set to a tense and dramatic piano/string accompaniment, which complemented their Limon style techniques, incorporating gripping and daring lifts. The lighting design by Katerina Antoniadou was the most superior of the entire festival.

The best all-round choreography closed the program; LENA'S BATH by Karola Lüttringhaus was truly outstanding. This Winston Salem based artist originally from Germany brought her cutting-edge European flair to a generally traditional festival. These spectacular dancers portrayed a sinister yet playful fracas

The film itself was an odd blend; part courtroom drama, part psychological thriller, part Wes Craven style teen slasher pic, and part attempt at Christian indoctrination and conversion. And yes, that is a lot of things to try and do in one movie. Do all these things together make *The Exorcism of Emily Rose* a good movie? Well... yes and no.

Scary and funny, much of what you want in a film like this, the movie still in no way met its goals or potential. It's thought provoking for about the time it takes you to make it from your seat in the theater to your car in the parking lot.

Laura Linney, who played Erin Bruner, the upstart attorney faced with the task of defending a priest charged with Negligent Homicide following a failed exorcism, took the boring character and gave her some life. Yet, the weak dialogue and often cheesy theme music she was faced with presented too many insurmountable obstacles to save this movie. The same can be said for Tom Wilkinson in his role as the priest on trial. He is a great actor but there was not a lot for him to work with.

The *Exorcism of Emily Rose* was trying very hard to keep itself PG-13 to increase the box office draw, but it turned what may have been a dynam-

ic film into a snore fest, with the occasional wake up loud bang. This movie only really makes you jump in your seat when you wander off from your focus on screen and are quickly pulled back by a cat attack or screaming fit by the (perhaps) possessed Emily Rose. Using a court case as a framing piece to show an attempted exorcism is an awkward fit and this movie had a hard time blending the two together.

The one thing I can suggest to viewers of this film is to bring friends and afterwards stand around in the parking lot talking about school and professors who frighten you. You will of course start to try and talk about the movie, but within a few minutes, run out of things to say and drift to other topics of more interest. I assure you, this conversation will be more entertaining than the actual movie.

The plastic pseudo-intellectual ramblings we all try and muster when called on in class can be of great service in these situations. Just remember: try and sound knowledgeable and if the conversation starts to drift towards an area outside of your expertise, just change the topic to something that better suits you. It worked in the movie, it will work again in the parking lot.

Juke Joint cont. from page 6

They fall apart or catch fire. Their owners pass away and the juke joints are forgotten.

"I told my wife, 'I hope I can remember these.'" He scratches his head. Ines made the photographs in the 80s. He has since hung up his camera to run the family-owned Columbia Dispatch from his Mississippi hometown. He speaks of the juke joint photos in past tense, as if of people he once knew. His photos were an act of discovery, and he has since moved on. And yet, his well-crafted photographs retain much of the mystery that prompted their creation. Whatever caught the artist's eye still catches ours. A woman laughs with her teeth, a bottle of Colt 45 glimmers beneath orange Christmas lights, and a pool cue smears across the long exposure. Even if he had no plan, if he had no formal training, if he had no deep aesthetic thoughts at all, Birney Ines has done one thing. He has preserved the essence of the juke joints, and he has done so beautifully.

The "Juke Joint" collection was published in book form in 1990 and is on view until Sept. 18.

Festival Celebrates performance

in the state for dance, in lots of ways," Van Dyke said. "Companies were eager to perform [at UNCG] and so they came. Gradually we were able to start paying them a little bit of something, so it developed from there."

NCDF was created to expose students to local companies, develop a more involved arts community and to encourage students to dance in North Carolina upon graduation.

"It's an attempt to show students

other companies from around the state and who's working so that they know that there are active artists in the area," Van Dyke said.

Dancers and non-dancers are attracted to the annual event.

"It is like a smorgasbord with a showcase of active artists within the state," Van Dyke said.

The Festival is also involved in activities beyond the scheduled performances. Several choreographers and dancers in NCDF participate in

outreach programs that venture into public schools, libraries and museums across the state. Free community dance classes are also offered.

While the Festival does promote outreach, current budget restrictions and staffing situations have restricted the amount of performances possible.

"I had gotten a call just this year about someone wanting the festival to come to her city. I had to tell her that I couldn't afford to do it," Van Dyke said.

MVP Baseball 2005: This year's dangerous game

Brad Howell
Sports Editor

Every year there seems to always be a game that threatens to ruin your life. It doesn't necessarily ruin your life because you love every minute of it, but when you stay up until the break of dawn every night, neglect your homework, your girlfriend leaves you, your parents disown you, etc. It is at this point in time that you at least consider the fact that it might indeed be ruining your life.

I don't consider myself a gamer by any means, because when I think of a gamer I think of people who are playing non-stop, 24/7. So upon further review, I guess I'm a seasonal gamer because every year I end up with a slight addiction to one game or another.

Fall semester freshman year was spent playing Halo on-line in Reynolds with my roommate Hank until five o'clock in the morning. We tried playing slayer mode, but we basically sucked too bad to kill very many people, so we started playing Capture the Flag. We found it more enjoyable to betray our teammates because we weren't that good at getting the flag either. The trash talking (or typing) was the most enjoyable part, and the verbal abuse being sprayed between grade school boys and ourselves was definitely and unforgettable experience.

Winter break may have saved my life that year, as a month away from the game made me realize that it wasn't worth dropping out of college for. Go figure.

Sophomore year I found myself living in Winfield with Randall, my old neighbor from Reynolds. He introduced me to MVP Baseball 2005, and I haven't recovered since. I've played my fair share of Madden and NCAA Football, and both are popular choices at this time of the year, but no true MVP fan would turn their backs on baseball with only a month remaining in the season. MVP itself has so much more to offer compared to the other baseball games on the market, as anyone who has ever played it can attest to.

Sports games in general are very interactive as you can make your own players, create teams, start dynasties, conduct drafts, trade and more. On owner mode for MVP you can control everything from hiring your Class-A hitting instructor to purchasing popcorn for your stadium from collected revenue.

Fortunately this all occurred during the spring semester last year and I moved away from the 'boro for the summer, seemingly escaping the clutches of MVP. Little did I know that it would only get worse upon my return. Both my former roommates are now my current ones, and needless to say we could all use some therapy.

At least I'm over my Halo days, but this isn't any better...just easier. Instead of typing obscenities, I've found that yelling them at someone actually playing in the same room with you is much easier and more effective.

After witnessing our self-destruction over the first month of school, I would strongly suggest students be responsible and simply just refrain from bringing a gaming system to school. Parents and teachers have been telling us we're immature for years because we are, we don't know how to manage our time. I try and view it like I have very little free time and I don't want to waste it sleeping. The jury's still out on whether that's the best approach, but I'm usually wrong about these kinds of things.

It's an ugly gaming world out there and if MVP or Halo hasn't gotten a hold of you yet, hopefully it never will. For all of us hopeless addicts however, October is right around the corner and that means its Tiger Woods season. Meet you downstairs; cause its time to pick up your sticks.

see Dangerous game on page 9...

SPORTS

On Deck

- Continued sports coverage
- Women's golf preview

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2005 | PAGE

UNCG Club Football primed for action

Spartans open season Saturday at 1 pm versus North Carolina

Paul McNeill
Staff Writer

Despite what you may have heard, UNCG does have a football team. Sure, an official stadium doesn't exist and the team isn't school sponsored, but UNCG students can catch football this fall on campus, and best of all, admittance is free.

The UNCG Club Football team is heading into its fourth season, and it's come a long way during its short existence.

"The first season (Club Football) played with practice jerseys with numbers spray painted on them," said Jordan Brown, the team's president and offensive coach. "Last year was also the first year we were allowed to play on campus. The year before last we had to play at the High Point Athletic Field because the school didn't want a contact sport on

campus."

However, Brown said thanks to club dues, fundraisers and the university's club-sports budget the team is fully equipped and ready to bang some heads.

Like many of the players Brown coaches, he is a former high school player who passed up on collegiate football to concentrate on academics. In high school, Brown played wide receiver for the five-time state champion Charlotte Independence Patriots. The Patriots - the nation's No. 1 team - have won 80-straight games, which is the longest winning streak in the country.

Brown was quick to point out, however, that the team isn't full of former state champions. "Club football is for people who have never played organized football before, or just high school players who didn't want to commit to a full time team, and everything in between," said

Brown.

One key difference between Club Football and school-sponsored football is everyone who tries out for Club Football makes the team. "Since we are a club team and we don't offer scholarships and things like that, we aren't allowed to discriminate based on athletic ability," said Brown. "If you show up at practice, work hard and pay your dues, you're on the team."

Just because the team can't cut anyone doesn't mean Club Football is a walk in the park or full of soft and unskilled players. Club Football isn't school sanctioned or allowed to hold tryouts, but that is the only difference it shares with collegiate football. Club Football follows the same rules, the field is 100 yards and it is full contact.

The league also plays a full season, and has a postseason. The Spartans open the season at 1 pm this

Saturday against North Carolina. UNCG will face North Carolina this weekend, and will play Duke later this fall. All homes games are played on the practice field next to the baseball field, and are free to as many people as the field can hold.

Unfortunately, anyone who hopes Club Football is a step towards an official UNCG football team may be disappointed. Many Club Football teams come from schools that already have major programs, such as Duke or North Carolina, and the other teams' players are apart of Club Football for a reason - because it's not a major program.

"We don't have immediate aspirations of (an official UNCG football team) happening," said Brown.

Practices are held Tuesday and Thursday nights from 7 to 9 and Wednesday nights from 6 to 9. Club dues are \$60.

Volleyball squad earns first win

Spartans still struggling despite Garus' first coaching victory

Carrie Cook
Staff Writer

As our academic classes get tougher, so does the women's volleyball 2005-2006 season. The Spartans have high hopes going into a new season fueled by a brand new attitude paired with a brand new coaching staff. The new blend of talent on and off the court brought UNCG its first win of the season when they downed Charleston Southern 3-1. It was the first win for new UNCG head coach Shawn Garus.

The Spartans well-balanced attack up front resulted in three players registering 13 kills apiece. UNCG took game one 30-26 but CSU came back with a 30-16 win in the second game to even the match. The Spartans went on to win the next two frames 30-26 and 30-25 to earn the victory. Senior Lori Collins, junior Hilary Overby and freshman Kaitlyn Nortz recorded the 13 kills each, while senior Adrian Hicks dished out 40 assists and recorded 10 digs.

Later in the day, UNCG lost a tough five-game match to South Alabama 3-2. In game one with the score tied 10-10, UNCG went on a run that would extend the lead to 29-21, before closing out the opening game with a 30-26 win.

The second game was a tight affair with neither team leading by more than three points until the Jags went on a 5-1 run to grab a six point, 18-12, advantage. UNCG could not get

any closer as the Jags went on to capture the 30-19 win.

With the third game tied at 14, South Alabama scored three consecutive points to take a 17-14 lead. The Jags held a six point lead at one point, and looked to be in control. However, holding a 28-23 advantage, UNCG went on a 7-0 run to win the game and take the 30-28 win.

The Jags came back to win game four, 30-25, to set up a deciding fifth game. Trailing by one at 6-5, South Alabama's defense started a 9-1 to propel it to a 14-7 lead. After a brief rally by UNCG, Jade Nuss sealed the victory with an attack that dropped in behind the Spartan defense.

Nortz led the Spartans with a season-high 17 kills, while Overby and Collins put away 14 and 12 kills respectively. Hicks doled out 47 assists. Overby and sophomore Alysia Rosvold each came up with 22 digs on the defensive end.

UNCG competed in the last match of the Charleston Southern Invitational, falling 3-0 to Stetson. The scores were 30-12, 30-23, and 30-23 respectively.

Junior Hilary Overby led the way with nine kills while, senior Lauren Richards and freshman Kaitlyn Nortz added six kills apiece. Senior Adrian Hicks dished out 21 assists, while sophomore Alysia Rosvold had a team-high nine digs.

The Spartans most recently faced local rival, High Point University at

the Mills Athletic Center. Although the game was hard fought, the Spartans fell short of victory as the Panthers made impressive runs late in the match. High Point scored eight of the final 11 points to capture game one, 30-25.

The Panthers then grabbed the final 16 of 18 points in the second match to take a commanding 2-0 lead, but the Spartans were not out of it yet. UNCG came out fiercely in the third game with a quick 3-0 lead sparked by Freshman Kaitlyn Nortz. Nortz and the Spartans surged forward 13-10, but were unable to seal the deal as the Panthers came back with a late run to close the game with a 30-26 victory.

Although the Spartans walked

away from the game defeated, their spirits and hopes for the season continue to rise. There was great promise displayed by the ladies as freshman Nortz lead UNCG with an impressive 14 kills and senior Adrienne Hicks shelled out 32 assists and six digs before it was all said and done.

The Spartans have great potential and show no fear as they roll into conference play. The ladies currently stand at 1-6, but the season is young and victory is just blazing among the horizon. The Spartans will dive into action again as they host Campbell tonight in the first home game of the season. The match is slated for 7 pm in Fleming

Women's soccer workin' overtime

Shireen Sadaghiani
Staff Writer

UNC Greensboro came up short Sunday, September 4th when they faced the women of Old Dominion in an intense but well played soccer match at UNCG's soccer stadium. Elizabeth Brewster's golden goal two minutes into the second over time sent Old Dominion home with a "W" over UNCG in the final match of the annual UNCG Soccer Classic.

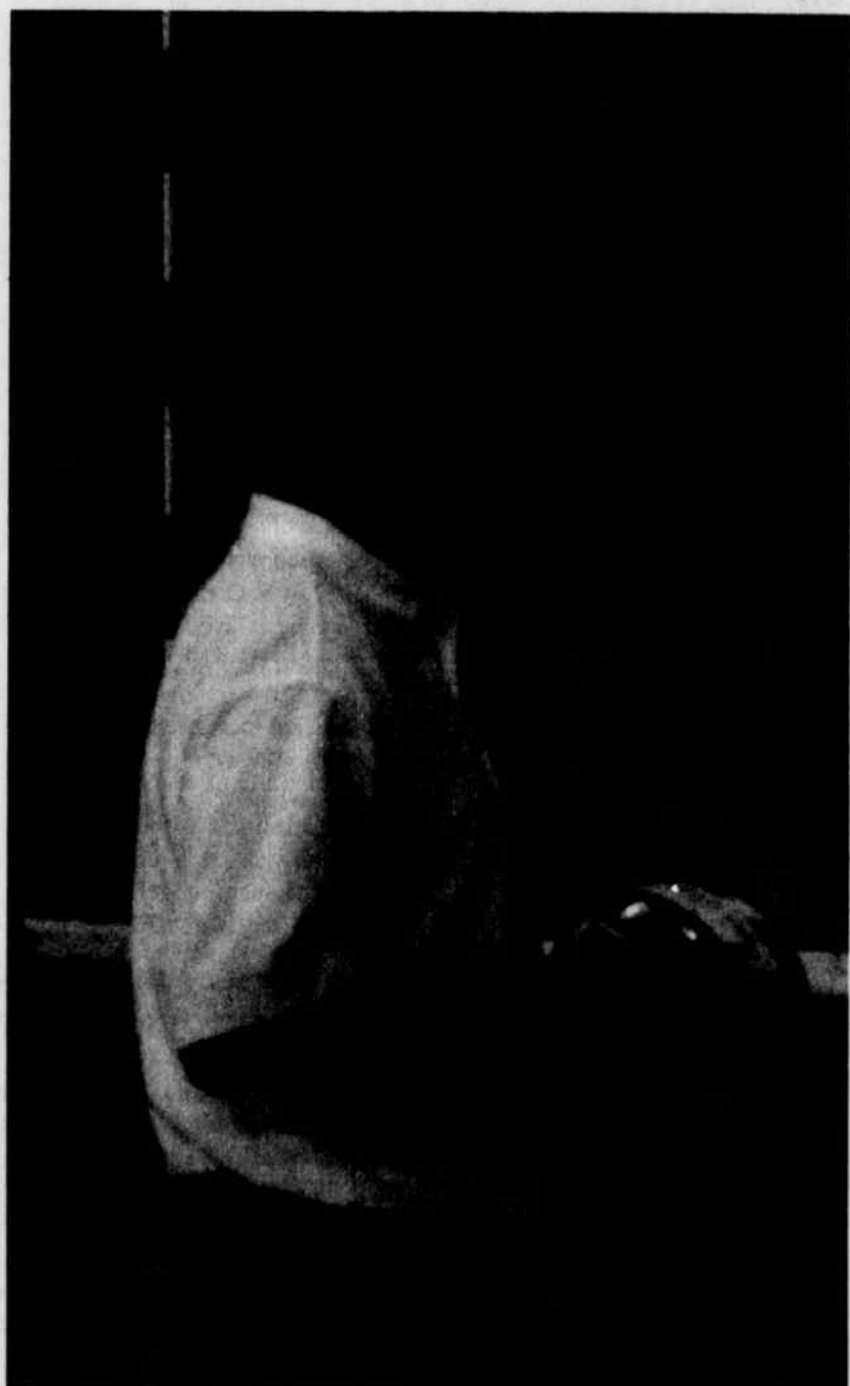
After seven shots for both teams, the score remained bare at the end of the first half. UNC Greensboro's Katherine Ryan captured the single-handed save of the first half just before she was taken off the field

with an injury.

Even though the Lady Monarchs stirred past the Spartan defense just 15 minutes into the first half and almost stole a goal from UNCG, an enlightening blow of the referee's whistle signified a fortunate off sides call neglecting Old Dominion's Laura Beeman's anticipated scoring opportunity.

Beeman found her way back into the danger zone after collecting the ball from the right flank and sent it in the left back of the net from 18 yards. The shot was beyond

continued on page 9



JESSICA RAK/THE CAROLINIAN

New coach Shawn Garus has Spartan Volleyball headed in the right direction. The team won its first match of the season over Charleston Southern September 9.

Men's soccer crushes Charlotte, sneaks past Brown

Patterson notches four goals on the week

Brad Howell
Sports Editor

After a season opening loss to Wilmington, UNCG bounced back with victories over UNC Charlotte and Brown University to improve its record to 2-1 on the season.

The Spartans were ranked in three national polls to start the season, despite dropping the opener. College Soccer News and the Soccer Times had the men ranked 18th, while Soccer America pegged UNCG at #24.

All-American Randi Patterson turned in his first career hat trick in the 4-0 Labor Day victory over the 49ers.

"I've never had it (hat trick) before so it feels good," said an unusually exuberant Patterson. "I came in hoping for one goal, so something like that is a dream actually."

Patterson recorded his first score with 20 minutes left to go in the first half on an unusual play. The sequence began with Patterson attempting a shot from the left of the goal, striking it wide right. The ball rolled slowly enough for Michael Fitzgerald to track it down and send it back towards Patterson who gathered the ball and scored at point-blank range.

Iceland newcomer Henning Jonason showed fans what he was capable of in the Wilmington game with a couple of well-struck balls, yet he still had nothing to show for his talents. That all changed when the forward started a 3-on-2 up the middle, and settled for a blast from 12 yards out. The rocket-shot screamed into the net to give UNCG a 2-0 lead

at the 43:57 mark.

The scoring chances increased significantly for the Spartans after UNCC goalie Daniel Burk was given a red card for taking Patterson down in the 63rd minute. The home crowd held its breath after hearing a deafening noise upon contact.

"He kicked me in the shin guard, and it didn't really hurt, but it sure sounded like it did," commented Patterson. "It wasn't that bad, but when I get taken down like that it just makes me want to score even more."

And score he did. Burks' replacement Tim Seibert came off the bench cold to stop a barrage of Spartan shots, but the sophomore keeper could only do so much as UNCG recorded 13 shots on goal in the second half.

Sophomore defender DJ McCurry played a long cross directly to Patterson's feet from the right wing, and the Hermann award candidate took care of business from eight yards away for his second goal of the evening.

Freshman Thomas Campbell played a ball into the box in the 81st minute, where Patterson completely froze the goalie with a header into the bottom right corner of the net.

The Spartans outshot the niners 25-7 for the game, and UNCG goalkeeper Jay Benfield recorded 5 saves to preserve the shutout.

"We're getting into the flow now and getting some consistency," said Spartan coach Michael Parker. "If we can just continue to improve each game, we'll be fine."

UNCG traveled up north to Providence, RI for the weekend to participate in the adidas-Brown Classic at Stevenson Field. The Spartans came away with a 1-0 victory over host Brown on Friday night in front of a near-capacity crowd of 2,894. The Spartans played #3 UConn on Sunday, but scores were not available at press time.

The game stayed scoreless until the notorious New Jersey native struck again with 12:10 to play. Patterson netted his fifth goal of the season unassisted, and Jay Benfield recorded his second shutout in as many matches, recording nine saves. Brown became the sixth opponent blanked in th senior keepers career.

Brown (1-2) held a 25-17 advantage in shots for the game, but Benfield made several great stops to preserve the win.

UNCG's next match is September 16 at UAB. The Spartans return home on September 24 when they host William and Mary at 7 pm at the UNCG Soccer Stadium.

NATHAN ROSS/THE CAROLINIAN

(Pictured L to R) Henning Jonason, Yokul Elisabetarson, Michael Fitzgerald, and Egill Atlason celebrate after Fitzgerald's assist in the game against UNC Charlotte.

...women's soccer continued

UNCG goalkeeper Jennifer Stillman's reach to serve as Beeman's second goal of the tournament.

After Old Dominion's teeth grinding goal, the Spartans retaliated anxiously for a comeback goal. With less than seven minutes remaining on the scoreboard, junior defender Shannon Donovan blasted the ball forty yards out to serve as the games equalizer. Just after Old Dominion's defense cleared the ball from inside its own box, Donovan gained control of the ball capitalizing the opportunity for an upper 90 blast to the back of the net. Donovan's crowd roaring goal tied the game one goal apiece, sending the Spartans to its third consecutive overtime game this season.

While the Spartans looked hopeful after a scoreless first overtime having several golden goal opportunities, Brewster ended the game just after two minutes into the second overtime. Old Dominions midfielder Katie Watson sent a cross into the Spartans defensive third from the right side of the field which found its way inside the Spartans box. After an initial shot by Old Dominion that Stillman saved with one hand, the ball bounced honestly to the feet of Brewster who rapidly sent a one touch detonation into the back of the net, giving the visiting Lady Monarchs a renowned 2-1 victory.

On a more positive note, just a few days later on Tuesday, September 6th

the Spartans entertained the next-door neighbors of High Point University and 324 fans with a 6-0 victory.

Leading the Spartans on the scoreboard was senior Cara Hammond with two goals; the first coming unassisted and the other off an assist from Amy Camell fifteen yards out. Also scoring for UNCG, Nicollette



SHIREEN SADAGHIANI/THE CAROLINIAN

DeLaine hit her only shot of the game 20 yards out after receiving an excellent ball from Devan Beachum. Sophomore, Karla Davis scored off a corner kick from DeLaine with a stunning header, while Mary Kate Towne and Emily Stewart both added a goal with assists from Davis and Amanda Zimmerman respectively.

The Spartans out shot the Panthers 19-4 and UNCG keeper Jennifer Stillman added a shutout and three saves to her season record.

In its next contest, UNCG used the unexpected offensive contribution from senior defender Tyson Davis to pull out another overtime win; this one coming against James Madison.

After a defensively oriented regulation period that produced only 11 total shots on goal, Davis netted her first career goal to give UNCG the 1-0 win. Devan Beachum assisted on Davis' 25-yard shot that ricocheted off a defender and into the goal.

UNCG will return to action on September 16th when it hosts the ninth-ranked Wake Forest Demon Deacons. Game time is at 7 pm.

Mary Kate Towne (left) was one of four Spartans to score in the 6-0 win over High Point.

Intramural Roundup

Flag Football results from September 6 - September 9

Shane Dickerson
Staff Writer

The 2005 UNCG flag football season got underway this past week with 27 teams divided among four leagues playing all week on the intramural field. Intramural officials described the inaugural games as going well despite "many new rule changes a host of new officials this

League C saw two days worth of games this week with last years champion Team Tuggin' IV and Lamda Chi starting off their seasons with two wins a piece. Game Over dropped a close one to Team Tuggin' IV while winning big over Red Jays Bizzle in their second match up. Cell Block D and Dirty Inc. played to a tie in their first game while going on to drop their second ones to both unde-



JESSICA RAK/THE CAROLINIAN

Lynwood Ebron attempts a pass in a game last Thursday night for team TBA. Ebron's team fell to the Reynolds Rodeo Clowns by a score of 14-7.

season." The following are recaps of the games according to official statistics compiled by the Intramural staff.

League A

Sigma Phi Epsilon started out the season with a big win over Two Dragons while the Tower Village Stars and the Savages fought their way to highly contested wins over Pi Kappa Phi and It Doesn't Matter. Sigma Nu was idle this week.

Sigma Phi Epsilon 26 - Two Dragons 6
Tower Village Stars 18 - Pi Kappa Phi 6
Savages 13 - It Doesn't Matter 12

Game to look for next week: 9/14 at 10:00- Sigma Phi Epsilon vs. Pi Kappa Phi

League B

No They Didn't and Kappa Delta Rho both had close victories over Team A and the Texas Longhorns to open their seasons, while the Asian Dragons gained a victory with a Team Unknown forfeit. Ske-ske-sku was idle this week.

No They Didn't 28 - Team A 13
Kappa Delta Rho 14- Texas Longhorns 8
Asian Dragons 1 - Team Unknown 0 (Forfeit)

Game to look for next week: 9/12 at 7:00- No They Didn't vs. Texas Longhorns

League C

....Dangerous game continued



BRAD HOWELL/THE CAROLINIAN

(Pictured L to R) Hank Godwin, Kobe, and Randall Jefferson focus intently on the nightly 3 a.m. MVP Baseball 2005 matchup.

feated teams.

Lamda Chi 34 - Red Jays Bizzle 0
Dirty Inc 6 - Cell Block D 6 (OT tie)
Team Tuggin 21 - Game Over 14

Lamda Chi 27 - Dirty Inc. 7
Team Tuggin 28 - Cell Block D 13
Game Over 26 - Red Jays Bizzle 7

Game to look for next week: 9/15 at 10:00- Lambda Chi vs. Team Tuggin'

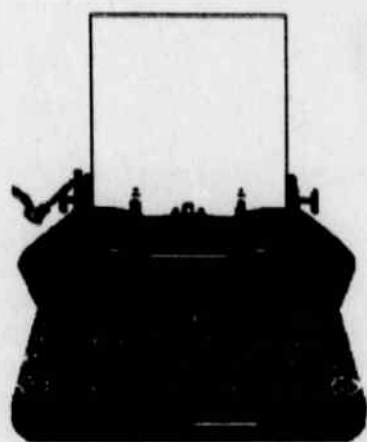
League D

League D teams also saw double the actions this past week with The Junkies and Team B each starting its year with two big victories. The Show Stoppers also came out with one victory, but only after a forfeit from the Average Joes, who dropped both of their games due to lack of participation. TBA and the Dudes dropped their only games this week by a close margin to start off 0-1.

Show Stoppers 1 - Average Joes 0 (Forfeit)
Team B 12 - TBA 7
The Junkies 28 - Reynolds Rodeo Clowns 16

Team B 30 - The Dudes 18
The Junkies 1 - Average Joes 0 (Forfeit)
Reynolds Rodeo Clowns 14 - TBA 7

Game to look for next week: 9/15 at 7:00- The Junkies vs. Team B



GET A LIFE

Welcome to the Life section.

For years The Carolinian has been trying to reconcile a desire to include its edgier fare - comics, humor and sex columns, pop-culture essays, etc - with the rest of the paper. For one reason or another a lot of these features - The Erogenous Zone, Faux News, Web Junkie - just didn't seem to fit into any of our sections. They weren't news, weren't sports or A&E, weren't strictly opinion but definitely deserved space in the paper.

Rather than corraling them all in without rhyme or reason we decided, at the end of last semester, to create a permanent space for them. Because UNCG is without a humor magazine or a place for extended non-fiction we felt The Carolinian should fill that void. We're going to take an approach that's more like a magazine or alternative-press paper than something you'd find in a traditional student weekly. Not everyone will like what we're doing - and we invite those people to turn to the next section. No hard feelings. Really.

Each week in the Life section you'll find those stories, columns and features fitting under the broad headings: Humor, Sex and Culture. And it's our goal to make the section as interactive as possible. Have an idea for our "I Can't Believe I..." column? Write one! Know a website we should explore in our "Web Junkie" feature? Point us in the right direction! Think you're ready to be a Carolinian cartoonist? Break out the pencils! And, as always, please tell us how much you love or hate whatever it is we're doing by dropping us a line at www.carolinianonline.com.

LIFE

HUMOR SEX CULTURE

I CAN'T BELIEVE I...

WENT TO A GUN SHOW

"The normal me who hates the NRA and opposes civilian assault weapon ownership stayed in the parking lot, while this Mr. Hyde character wandered around saying things like, 'Twenty rounds a second, huh? And it'll fit in a purse?'"

Luke McIntyre
Staff Writer

It was towards the end of July when I noticed the trail-blaze orange billboard outside Greensboro Convention Center proclaiming "Gun and Knife Show Aug. 27-28."

I don't squeal with excitement often and God willing that will be the last time. After getting my car back into one lane I made a quick u-turn to double check the date. For the next four weeks I talked about little else.

Like an early Christmas morning, August 27th rolled around. As I walked into the convention center I realized that, in my child-like anticipation of the gun show, I had failed to prepare myself mentally for such an event. The first thing I noticed was that these people were, well, all white. All of them. I hate to act on stereotypes, but hey, it was a gun show. A full-on, liberals leave your politics at the door, sleeves optional, guys in fatigues standing around quoting Reagan and cleaning their rifles HO-DOWN. And at about 2 o'clock in the afternoon a college kid with glasses and his Asian girlfriend were thrown in the mix. We blended in almost as well as the camouflage these guys were passing off as street wear.

Me being a guy, I felt it was my responsibility to tell my girlfriend every bit of trivia about every gun we saw. It was in the middle of explaining how the rainbow trajectory of a 30-30 round makes it harder to aim than a 30-06 that she left me to hunt down a soda. Immediately I realized two things. For some ill-fated reason I had a lot of cash on me, and now had no supervision. Running around like a coked-up 5-year-old in a candy store, it took less than 15 minutes to buy a machete, a pair of brass knuckles, and a grenade shell. Just for the record, the machete only cost four dollars.

While wandering around I began to notice the impressive number of

WWII-era weapons. Being a fan of old weapons in general I stopped and spoke with several vendors when something very odd caught my eye. Surely it couldn't be, but there it was plain as day. Piles and piles of Nazi memorabilia. Medals, rank patches, canteens, they had it all. Nazi Iron Crosses lay beside American Silver Stars as if they'd put the whole World War thing behind them and since become good metallic friends.

I suddenly remembered a line from the movie American Beauty: "There's a whole subculture that collects this Nazi shit."

It was true.

I later found tables displaying Japanese and Italian effects, though not nearly in the same quantity. Without going so far as to make accusations, there was certainly a feeling that these German trinkets were not simple spoils of war.

On the upside, most vendors were extremely nice, knowledgeable people who were just trying to make a few bucks. Already low prices could be haggled a bit; the whole thing had the feel of a giant garage sale. I did question the intentions of the vendor whose sales pitch was "All of these rifles can be modified into fully automatic machine guns." He could have just as legally told me how to smuggle heroine in them, but this vendor was definitely a minority in the crowd.

A gun show is a surreal experience. The normal me that hates the NRA and opposes civilian assault weapon ownership stayed in the parking lot, while this Mr. Hyde character wandered around saying things like, "Twenty rounds a second, huh? And it'll fit in a purse?"

I held a \$1,500 handmade knife. I practiced my A-frame stance with a Smith and Wesson .50 caliber revolver. And then, probably the greatest part of the day, I left. I left with a thinner wallet and a couple knives in tow, but I left gun-less. Like a kid in a toy store, I'd had my fun. I was just looking.



Freeimages.com

*"I Can't Believe I..."
is an ongoing column
chronicling the strange, true-
life adventures of UNCG
students. Have an idea for the
column or want to
submit a guest column? Drop
us an
e-mail at
www.carolinianonline.com*

My First Comic: A Love Story



Words & Pictures

Joe Killian
The Carolinian

I was always a bookworm. Hardy Boys serials, Sherlock Holmes stories, Edgar Allan Poe. But somehow, this was different. I was twelve years old and, standing in the aisle of a Kerr Drug while my mother looked for shampoo, I was at the perilous edge of a terrible addiction.

It was Silver Surfer #50, a double sized issue with a foil embossed cover - the shimmering hero speeding toward the reader, his hands two bursts of brightly burning cosmic energy. It was...well, it was incredibly stupid. But that's not the point.

The point is that, somehow, I hadn't realized until this moment the limitless power of words and pictures. That simple combination - the way it works when it works well. Until then it had escaped me. I knew who Superman and Spiderman were. Like every other red blooded American male of my generation I watched The Super Friends. But this was different. Turning the pages and watching the story unfold, being struck with an unexpected splash page or gate fold image of deep space illuminated by magical

light...this was something more.

This was my first comic book - the first I brought home, leafed through, obsessed over. This was the one that got me - the first of many.

As the years wore on I amassed quite a collection - more than a thousand by the time I came to college. They taught me words the other kids didn't know (I learned "Deus Ex Machina" from The Incredible Hulk). They infected me with ideas and plagued me with questions most healthy young boys shrug off (is revenge killing ever justified? How much government power is too much?). They shaped me and opened up a world of possibilities I'd never considered. That was the power of the medium. Comics are just words and pictures - and there's nothing you can't do with words and pictures.

My tastes changed over the years. I went from Super-Heroes to Sci-Fi to Horror to Crime comics and back again. But my love of the medium remained constant. When I came to UNCG I sold a huge chunk of my collection on Ebay for a couple hundred dollars - just enough to pay for books that year. And then, almost as soon as I'd arrived, I started looking for a comic shop. Luckily I didn't have to look far.

Parts Unknown was just a few blocks from away, at 906 Spring Garden Street. Owner John Hitchcock

is a lifelong comic fan and self-styled historian - a limitless store of knowledge on everything from independent comics like Stray Bullets and Strangers in Paradise to what's going on with the Justice League this month. Browse around the shop for even five minutes and you're sure to overhear a long conversation on 60s professional wrestling, the brilliance of Alan Moore's "Swamp Thing" or the sexual politics of "Superman's Girlfriend Lois Lane." In short it's a small but friendly shop that's perfect for hardcore geeks but also a perfectly safe place for a father to bring his seven-year-old. You can have them pull your favorite comic for you weekly or monthly, browse the latest stuff and even pick up paperback collections and backissues, though there's much wider selection at...

Acme Comics, 2150 Lawndale Drive. Here manager Jermaine Exum and crew have a sprawling two-room collection of the latest comics, mainstream and obscure collections and graphic novels and so many comic and cartoon toys that I feel overwhelmed with nerdiness just walking past them. While Parts Unknown prides itself on being almost strictly comics with few frills or gimmicks, Acme sets up large comic and action-figure displays for their customers featuring the heroes

in the summer's biggest blockbusters. They have a large section of comics just for kids, a corner full of Indie offerings and a back-issue selection so staggeringly large that I never fail to find something I didn't know existed but just have to have each time I go in. The staff is friendly and always willing to talk about why the Scarlet Witch is one of the most useless characters in the Marvel Universe or which of Iron Man's many armors was the most powerful. You don't get the same scholarly/historical vibe as at Parts Unknown - but the guys clearly know their stuff.

When we ran a series of comic-book columns two years ago the response was great. People would stop me on the street to talk about the column, write to argue with my assessment of some comic most people had never heard of, tell me they picked up a comic for the first time after reading what we'd written. So, when we decided to put together the Life section I definitely wanted to relaunch the column. I'll be using it to talk about comics I'm enjoying, local comic events and, hopefully, some interesting musings about comics as a medium. I'm hoping to tag-in our Executive Editor Chris Lowrance every now and then to let an actual cartoonist talk about the comics he loves. If you're reading something you think would blow my mind or

just think you have something to say about comics then, by all means, give me an e-mail at Joekillian@gmail.com. Next week I want to talk Superman - until then, see you in the funny papers.



Silver Surfer/Marvel Comics

Above:
The Silver Surfer - a Marvel Comics superhero who flew through space on...you guessed it...a cosmic surf-board. Give me a break. I was twelve.

Porn Sex vs. Real Sex

Porn should be celebrated - not emulated.



The Erogenous Zone

Brook Taylor
Staff Writer

It's no secret: I love porn. I have used it countless times as entertainment with roomfuls of friends, for research purposes and, of course, as an aid to my own sexual practices. You can bet I watched a hell of a lot of porn in preparation for this article, too.

So what's my point? Porn is fabulous, and everyone should watch it...with a gigantic grain of salt. People, especially virgins, often forget that porn in all its forms is essentially the product of an entertainment industry, not an educational one. Just as it is not a good idea to model your life around your favorite movie, it is not a good idea to model your sex life around your favorite pornography.

As great as porn is, it's far from being entirely realistic. Even if they are really having sex, porn stars still have something bigger to focus on: putting on a show. Their objective is to make it look like it feels good, and sometimes that means sacrificing actual pleasure in favor of a good camera angle. That alone is enough to discount the sexual merits of the porn you watch.

Formulas generally do not factor into most people's sex lives, but they are a part of every porn video ever produced. If you don't understand what I mean, watch two different

videos of the same genre (straight, gay, BDSM, etc.). Though the videos will feature different corny story lines and actors, their actions will generally follow the same pattern.

For most straight porn, it almost always starts with the woman going down on the man. The actress usually does it in an exaggerated manner, using her hands more than her mouth and making sure to send the occasional sultry stare into the camera. After a considerable amount of time, the man will then usually reciprocate the oral sex in an equally poor fashion.

On behalf of women everywhere, this is a side note that I have to throw in to the men: please do not derive your oral sex techniques from porn. They move their tongues around far too much and tend to get a little rough with the hands. Instead, learn to centralize your tongue movements (your lady will let you know where she likes it best), and take it easy with the finger thrusting. A sore vagina is not a happy vagina.

After the oral sex is through, the actors will usually commence actual vaginal penetration. This is always accompanied by the incredibly annoying and incessant moans of the actress. If the porn is going to include anal sex, it would happen around now in the formula. They may do a few position changes, but the end result is always the man pulling out of whatever orifice he was pounding to deposit his load (on the woman's breasts, stomach, or face of course) for the proverbial "money shot".

The formula is pretty similar for

gay porn too (a personal favorite of mine). Both men enjoy oral stimulation, and it's always performed with better technique than any straight porn (sorry ladies, it's true). Next, it's usually only one guy that submits for anal sex, though sometimes the men will trade the bottom position. As a finale, the condoms will come off and they too will spurt their pearls to prove the pleasure.

Ultimately, this tried-and-true formula in porn succeeds in creating wacky expectations in actual bedrooms. People who are new to the game (and even those who have been playing for a while) often try their best to emulate exactly what they've studied in countless videos, often with less than ideal results.

For example, take my nameless friend's story: after seeing a porn where the woman deep throat the man's penis, she tried it on her boyfriend without really knowing how, and ended up puking all over him. The lesson learned here is that experimentation is great, but research it first! Learn exactly what it is that you want to try and how it is done before you humiliate and/or injure yourself.

Lastly, make sure you incorporate into your sexual trysts the one thing all the porn videos leave out: communication. Let your partners know what you like and what you don't, what you're willing to do and what you won't. Unlike porn, in the end, it's the stuff you put your passion into that has the best outcome.

FAUX NEWS

New beer laws, state lottery prepare North Carolina to become "the new Nevada."

Luke McIntyre
Staff Writer

Ecstatic and tipsy North Carolinians spent this week celebrating their state's sudden turn towards widespread alcoholism and gambling addiction.

Two issues that have been long debated in this state, a lottery and the amount of alcohol legally allowed in beer, were settled when Governor Mike Easley (who will long be remembered as "the greatest governor ever") signed into law bills creating a state lottery and raising the legal amount of alcohol allowed in beer to 15%. Before this law was put into effect the legal limit for beer was 5% alcohol, and anything with 15% alcohol was labeled "liquor."

The new beer law will affect various related laws, including the legal limit for driving under the influence. The intoxicated limit was raised to .10 blood alcohol concentration, allowing drinkers to drive after having one full beer. A person may have a BAC of .12 to drive a lawn mower, .15 to ride a horse, and anyone with a level over .15 is only allowed to ride in the back of a police car, or coincidentally on a police horse, but may never ride an actual police officer.

Opponents of the decision did not hold their tongues. State Senator Rob Wiggums spoke out ferociously after the bill was signed. "It just ain't right. No man ought to be able to get the alcohol of three beers without having to open three cans. What if people just started eating one meal a day? What if bruncher was it? Or lupper-

fast? You don't like them apples, I bet! Nobody would like them apples. You'd have to eat them all at once!"

Many religious leaders have spoken out against Easley's alcohol decision, citing that Jesus would never have turned water into wine that was more than four percent alcohol, "so sayeth the Lord". Pat Robertson has already called for Easley's assassination.

Governor Easley wasn't spared of criticism on his lottery decision either. Some are going as far as to compare North Carolina's new position on gambling to that of Nevada. Nevada, famous for its casinos, whore houses, and waffle shops, is often referred to as "America's playground," or, "The State with All the Whores."

Easley responded to criticism by announcing that he had appointed himself to be official "bikini inspector" of North Carolina and, obviously intoxicated, told several news reporters to meet him in his office. While it is unclear whether or not this is Easley's new official title, it can be assured that tourism will surge to the capitol, or, "party central." Easley closed the press conference by stating that the state drink will be changed from milk, to the "beer stand."

Luke McIntyre's Faux News column is a weekly satirical look at news on and off-campus. It is in its second year.

Too friendly with Flipper

Man/Dolphin love? Only on the Internet...

Web Junkie goes to the farthest, strangest corners of the Internet... and finds men getting it on with Dolphins.

Web Junkie

Brook Taylor
The Carolinian

Most of us have come into contact with people so socially awkward it makes us cringe. Maybe it was a nerd in one of your classes who talked about his victories in Dungeons and Dragons as if they had really happened. Or perhaps you have a friend who would never get a date if it weren't for the Internet.

Believe it or not, after this article, you will appreciate the normalcy of these folks. I recently came across a bunch of dorks so extremely out of touch with the human race that they have to go outside of it to get their sexual kicks. That's right: these people have sex with dolphins.

When I first stumbled across this site, I thought it was probably dedicated to profiling the kind of people who commit the horrors of bestiality and zoophilia (big words for having sex with animals). Then I realized that it's actual purpose was to inform people on why and how to have sex with dolphins. The author provides

tips on everything from masturbation and intercourse, and even gives safety precautions (Don't do this unless you want internal injuries! How to give head without suffering a broken neck!).

Once you get past all the how-to stuff, you'll see the author's accounts of his own personal experiences boinking dolphins of both genders. Try keeping a straight face as you read about his affection for his "lovers" and the cuddling they shared afterwards. It's a real riot if you can will yourself to forget how horribly wrong and sad it all is.

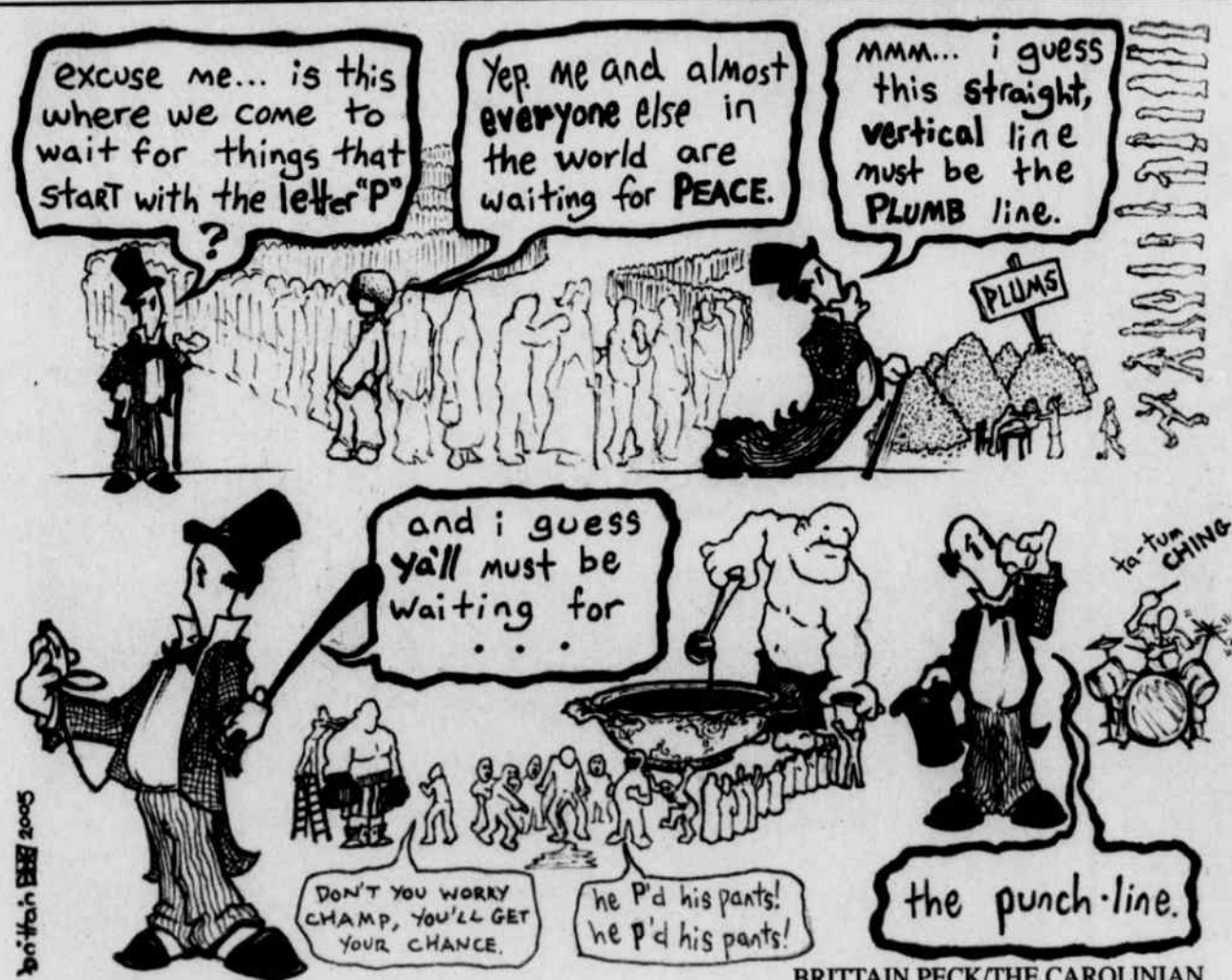
See it for yourself at <http://www.sexwork.com/family/dolphins1.html>. Just remember, this is one of those things that you can't unread. Once you've been exposed, it will stay with you for awhile. You have been warned.

Web Junkie is a weekly feature in which our writers search out the strangest, most mind-bending stuff on the Internet - just so you'll know where to look.



Too kinky even for Paris Hilton?

The famous heiress/party girl loves to swim with the Dolphins, as seen in this uncredited candid shot - but Brook Taylor has stumbled on a site that would make even Paris cringe. That's...not hot at all.



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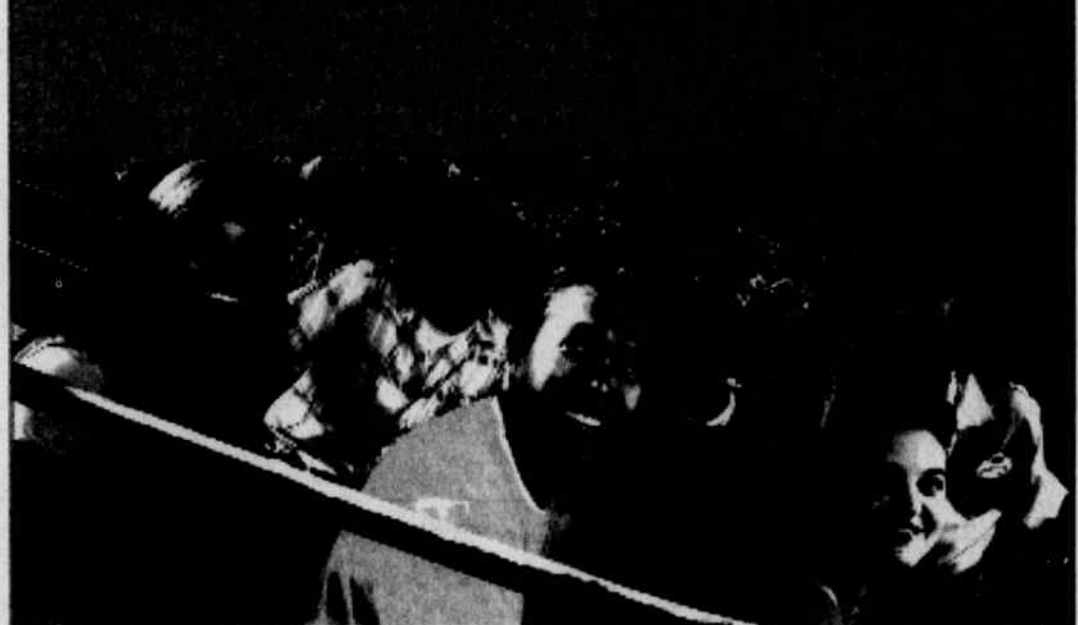
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