

The Captain's Log

Wednesday, October 9, 2002

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Trible Warns Community About Budget Cuts

Fall Break To Extend Through Next Wednesday, Governor Warner To Release Budget Proposals October 15

BY ASHLEY WILSON
Staff Writer

President Tribble, Dr. Bobby Bartels, Dr. Richard Summerville, and students met Monday night in one of what will be a few Town Hall meetings, which are meant to inform students of the effects of Gov. Mark Warner's most recent round of requested budget reductions.

Tribble explained that "we expect a minimum of 15 percent" reduction in budget and that "in all we will reduce our education budget by 22.5 percent. The reductions are huge."

Previous budget reductions had "kept the personnel cuts down to a minimum, things look different this year," according to Bartels, Chair of the Budget Advisory Committee. Furthermore, the increases made in tuition for the 2002-2003 academic year will not be enough to offset new reductions. Said Bartels, "We thought we were in good shape and then we were told we have to make additional cuts."

Tribble announced an extension of fall break until



President Paul Tribble addresses faculty, staff and students at the Oct. 7 Town Hall Meeting. Tribble (standing) warned the CNU community that budget cuts will affect everyone, but the administration, as well as the Budget Advisory Committee, headed by Dr. Bobby Bartels (right) are doing everything they can to make the transition as easy as possible. Provost Richard Summerville (left) spoke at the meeting as well.

Wednesday evening because he wants students and their parents "to listen to the governor's speech," scheduled for Tuesday, in which the details of the cuts would be released, and he understands "what the politicians have wrought. This is serious business."

He invited students and faculty to attend another meeting on Wednesday night, in which "we are going to engage the faculty of CNU and fully understand the consequences, and they are brutal."

As Tribble explained to the students in attendance, the cuts made to the budget are a reduction in operational rather than construction costs and are largely focused on instruction.

"There will be fewer courses taught. There will be

fewer faculty and staff. Classes will be bigger here and on every campus in Virginia. There's a possibility that tuition may increase. My hope is that we can avoid it."

He assured students that "we [budget committee] are very mindful of the difficulty

of paying for a college education.

That's a factor that will weigh heavily on our minds," and tuition increases will be implemented "only if it's necessary" to uphold the "quality of education."

In response to student concern that graduation may be delayed by fewer course offerings, the President said, "We will do everything we can to work with those students who are adversely affected."

Several students expressed gratitude at being informed of the impending budget issues.

"I think this meeting between the President and the Budget Advisory Committee and the students was long due, because we did have a lot of questions," Larissa Alexander, a third-year psychology major, said.

She was one of many who were concerned by the possible cuts, remarking, "I do worry how budget cuts will affect our future education. I put my future in the hands [of lawmakers], so I hope they will make a wise decision."

Provost Summerville said, "The operation of our campus is going to be, in very great measure, partially suspended. When we get through that, we will have what's most important for our institution."

Tribble, likewise, assured students that "we're going to roll up our sleeves to ensure your success. We've got tremendous momentum, and we're not going to let it slow us down too much. Every day we'll go the extra mile... I pledge you that."

The Last Days Of Hampton Roads Transportation On Campus

HRT Stops Still Located Near East Campus And Riverside Hospital

BY DANIEL BANKS
Staff Writer

Hampton Roads Transportation (HRT), the regional public transportation to the Peninsula and South side areas of Virginia, ended its on campus stops on Sunday. HRT's bus stop, located in front of the Great Lawn, will be subsequently removed. Spokeswoman Margaret Yancey, Director of Development, admits that this was a tough decision.

Yancey said that CNU

had to make room for its fast-growing campus, as well as adjust its finances.

"Space was needed for construction, and business with the HRT was also slow," said Yancey.

With limited options, students, as well as CNU employees, will have to go farther for means of transportation.

For some, buses have always been a cost-effective means of travel. The patrons who found the bus easier to afford are now left with fewer options beginning this week.

Discovery Café employee, Teresa Jackson, said, "It won't be easy getting to work any more. I have to be on time at 11 a.m."

Despite administration's claim of minimal usage, Jackson has always relied on the bus. Recently, HRT has been her only means of travel to CNU. Now she will be forced to make rapid changes.

"I don't have a car and no other means of transportation," Jackson said.

Some students have yet to be impacted by the situation.

For some, it is too early to know how serious the consequences of the administration's decision will be. First-year students currently have cars or other means of transportation that do not include HRT.

First-year students like Jennifer Bowen see no need for a car or a bus.

"I have no use for them," she said. "For some upper-class students, it is a different story."

Junior Adam Chichester knows that the decision to remove the bus stop from campus is problematic at best.

"I know people who use the bus stop everyday. Over half of my fellow classmates in most of my courses cannot



Queenequa Hitchcock, a senior at CNU boards the number 12 bus in the morning. She is one of many students who are unhappy with the discontinued bus service.

afford a car," he said.

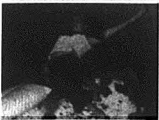
Yancey could not offer any further details at this time.

"There are no alternative plans for alternate means of transportation by the university," Yancey said.

Since HRT is exclusively owned and operated by Hampton Roads, the routes surrounding the campus on the East Side of campus will not be affected by the situation.

The two remaining routes

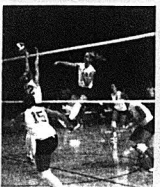
can be reached in the vicinity of campus in the parking lot of Riverside Hospital and across the Freeman Center near the Exxon gas station.



Savannah Gold Now Offers Mechanical Bull Riding

Rodeo Comes To Newport News?

Details on
Page 5



Volleyball Jumps To A Win

Volleyball Defeats Chowan Oksana Boukhtina Kills 20 And Blocks Two

Details on
Page 6

Campus In Brief

LGBT Awareness

Last week, the Gay-Straight Student Union sponsored events in recognition of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Awareness Week.

GSSU set up an information tables in the Breezeway of the Student Center, where they provided pamphlets on hate crimes, homophobia and sexual discrimination.

Career Day

The Office of Career and Counseling held a Career Day, which was held on Wednesday Oct. 9.

The event was held in the Freeman Center from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The event included employers such as American Express Financial Advisors, Jefferson Lab, Mary Kay Cosmetics and the Naval Surface Warfare Center.

Voter

Registration

The Student Government Association Senate's Committee on Political Involvement finished its voter registration drive last week.

According to SGA President Anna Williams, almost 300 students were registered to vote in this upcoming election cycle.

Coat Drive

Alpha Kappa Alpha will begin their coat drive on Oct. 21 and it will run for 10 days. Drop off boxes will be located throughout the campus.

Catholic Campus Ministries

There will be no mass on Oct. 13.

Debate

The Freshman Class will have a candidate debate on Oct. 8 at 7:30 p.m. in Anderson Auditorium (first floor of the Administration building).

Elections

Freshman class elections will be on the following days:

Oct. 9 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Student Center, York River East from 3 to 6 p.m., and Santoro Hall from 6 to 9 p.m.; Oct. 10 from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. in the Student Center, Santoro Hall from 3 - 6 p.m., and York River West from 6 - 9 p.m.

Young Democrats

Betty Jolly will be a guest speaker at the Oct. 8 meeting. It will be in the Alumni Room from 3 - 5 p.m.

Car Wash

CNU Motor Sports hosted a car wash on Sunday.

President, Chris Rice, was pleased with the turnout as well as the amount of money they were able to bring in.

They raised \$100.

Contractor Fixing York River Problems

BY EMILY USEEM
Staff Writer

First-year students moved into York River East and West on Aug. 20. When students first moved in, they dealt with broken telephones, missing blinds, leaky showers and multitudes of other problems.

Erin McKay, York River Hall Director, predicted that these problems would be fixed within a couple of weeks. It has now been over a month since students have moved in.

First-year student Holly Iberg's telephone and blinds were fixed.

"As soon as Family Weekend came around, both things were fixed," Iberg said. "I guess I was just grateful that it was fixed. No other problems have come up since then."

McKay was on call last week. Being an on-call Hall Director means dealing with whatever problems the resident assistants cannot or will not handle.

Last week, she received many phone calls and pages, "but nothing over here [in terms of maintenance]." It was more student issues and normal maintenance," McKay said.

She did, however, have some advice for students in the residence halls.

"It's important that the residents are letting the front desk know when something breaks, especially since the contractors are still here."

Over the weekend, the air conditioning was shut off in York River West as the maintenance workers replaced a temporary piece with a permanent one, said McKay. However, the air con-



Jennifer Radford and Becca Johnson work in the computer lab in York River East.

ditioning was up and running by Monday.

Maria Vadala's air conditioning started leaking sometime mid-Monday morning. "I walked into my room barefoot and noticed that the air conditioning had started dripping," said Vadala. "I was annoyed because I had to listen to that dripping all night."

Seven cups and a small towel had been laid out to catch the water so it didn't warp the floor. Several of the cups had to be drained about every half-hour.

Vadala thought that moving in meant that the resident halls would be free of issues.

"Conrad Brothers, [the school's contractor], CNU staff and subcontractors worked nights and weekends to address all issues as they were brought to our attention," Director of Development Margaret Yancey, said. She spoke on behalf of Jay

Labert, the Director of Housing.

She also brought up the point that punch lists are standard in projects like this. After contractors have completed their jobs, they walk through the project with their clients (in this case the students). The clients point out what has not been completed to their specifications.

"It [punch sheet] is a standard operation," said Yancey, who received her information from William Brauer, the Executive Vice President of Administration and Finance.

"It's just normal maintenance," McKay, who heard of the broken air conditioning, said. The workers, she explained, were still adjusting them, and they had them turned off over the weekend, which may have caused some condensation to occur.

Vadala's air conditioner was fixed the following

morning.

Katie Biechman's air conditioning had now been fixed.

"It's been working well ever since," Biechman said, who remembered that the maintenance workers came back to check on it later.

"It's embarrassing when we have people over," said first-year student Sissi Hogan of her shower. "They [the maintenance workers] came to fix it."

She explained that they put in a plastic strip to replace their wooden strip. However, it's not level and water is leaking under it.

Family Weekend they were running around trying to fix everything," Hogan said.

Since she and her roommate discovered the strip wasn't working, they sent in another work order. Hogan has yet to hear from the workers.

Hazing Kills Two California Women

Parent Files \$100 Million Lawsuit

BY JENN ROWELL
Staff Writer

Two young women drowned on Sept. 9 in what the Los Angeles Police Department have called accidental following their preliminary investigation.

Kristin High, 22, and Kenitha Saafir, 24, were students at California State University, Los Angeles, and were pledging the Alpha Kappa Alpha (AKA) sorority. AKA is the nation's oldest Historically Black Sorority.

High's family filed a \$100 million wrongful death law-

suit for what they consider to be a hazing incident. According to the private family investigation, the women were blindfolded with their hands tied behind their backs and were led into the ocean during rip tide conditions. The incident occurred at Dockweiler State Beach near Playa del Rey.

According to the family's lawsuit, "the waves were cresting at six to eight feet and creating a strong undercurrent resulting from rip tide."

The lawsuit also claims that they were forced to do difficult exercises on the beach following several nights of no sleep because they were completing tasks assigned by the sorority members.

CNU has an active AKA

chapter, currently with six members. According to President Jeanice Stewart, they have never condoned, participated in, or witnessed any forms of hazing within their organization.

CNU's hazing policy states that, "Hazing is defined as any mental or physical requirement, request, or obligation placed upon any person which could cause discomfort, pain, fright, disgrace, injury, or which is personally degrading, or which violates any federal, state, local statute or University policy, the willingness of an individual to participate in such activity notwithstanding."

Officers of any organization found guilty of hazing are held responsible for the act. Hazing is a criminal of-

fense in the Commonwealth of Virginia and is treated as such on this campus.

In the past, Greek organizations have been removed from campus as a result of hazing incidents. Most recent was Zeta Phi Beta, which was removed last year.

In a letter from the Supreme Basileus of the sorority, Linda M. White, it is stated that there is no recognized AKA chapter at California State University. The local chapter was suspended over two years ago due to minor pledging infractions.

"If any individuals involved in the incident [claimed] to represent AKA, they did so without the approval or knowledge of our organization," said White.

World In Brief

"Sniper-Style" Shootings Terrorize D.C.

Over the course of the day Friday, five individuals were shot in various parts of Montgomery County, MD and north-west Washington, D.C. in a series of shootings that the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms has suggested are related.

A fifth shoot occurred in Spotsylvania County, Va. just west of Fredericksburg Saturday. The ATF has since linked this shooting to the previous ones in Montgomery County and Washington, D.C.

Police are on the lookout for a white six-wheeled rear box style truck with writing on both sides. If anyone has information regarding any of these shootings, contact the Montgomery County Police Tip-line at (240) 777-2600.

Yankees Kicked From Playoffs In First Round Since 1997

In a crushing four-game series against the Anaheim Angels, the New York Yankees failed to move to the second round of the American League Division Series for the first time since 1997.

In the final game of the series Saturday, the Yankees gave up nine runs while taking only five from the Angels. The Angels, who had up until this point never won a post-season series, defeated a New York squad who were without pitchers Roger Clemens and Mariano Rivera.

"Red Dragon" Bites Into Box Office

"Red Dragon," a prequel to the 1991 Academy Award winning "The Silence of the Lambs," took a bite from last weekend's box office with a \$37.5 million total.

The Anthony Hopkins vehicle, following quickly on the heels of last year's "Silence" sequel "Hannibal," tracks the exploits of the only FBI to have every the infamous serial killer Hannibal Lecter.

Hurricane Lili All Talk

Hurricane Lili was downgraded into a tropical storm Thursday, right before it made landfall in Louisiana.

Lili, which had been rated a Category 4 Hurricane right before landfall (on a five-point scale), was the first hurricane to make land contact with the Louisiana coast since Hurricane Irene in 1999.

Down Syndrome Awareness Promoted

Buddy Walks Are One Way To Promote Awareness

BY DORIAN WRIGHT
Staff Writer

Throughout the early nineties, "Life Goes On" was a hit sitcom. It was a hit not only as a result not only because it illustrated the mundane, everyday experiences, but also because of one of the main characters, Chris Burke, an actor with Down Syndrome, played a character that had the disease and the show elaborated specifically on Burke's character and the effects he had on his school, his family, and the world.

Burke is by no means the

only man with Down Syndrome to become a star, but he is one that many remember.

In the United States, Down Syndrome affects 350 thousand families. Approximately 5 thousand children are born with it each year. To help spread awareness on Down Syndrome, October has been dubbed Down Syndrome Awareness Month.

According to the National Down Syndrome Society (NDSS), Down Syndrome is the most wide spread chromosomal abnormality; one in every 800 to 1,000 children are born with it.

Buddy Walks are events that are hosted by the NDSS. Simply, they are walks organized by groups of people, anywhere from 20 to 2,000, which promote the inclusiveness of people affected by Down Syndrome.

The Old Dominion Lady Monarchs hosted a Buddy

Walk on Oct. 5 on their campus.

Burke as well as other celebrities throughout the country have attended Buddy Walks and have spoken out about Down Syndrome Awareness.

The condition is caused by an error in cell division that results in an extra portion of the number 21 chromosome.

The NDSS said 80 percent of children born with Down Syndrome are born to women under the age of 35, however, the chance of having a child with Down Syndrome increases with age. A woman at the age of 35 has a one in 400 chance of having a child with Down Syndrome; a woman at the age of 40 has a one in 110 chance; while a woman at the age of 45 has a one in 35 chance.

People with Down Syndrome vary in degrees of mental retardation.

According to the NDSS, for the most part, people with Down Syndrome have IQ's in the mild to moderate range of retardation.

With advancements in clinical science in medical treatments, the life span of people with Down Syndrome has greatly increased. In 1910, children with Down Syndrome were expected to live to the age of nine. Today, the average life span is 55, however many live passed that age.

The NDSS has found that more scientists are beginning to study Down Syndrome because it has been linked to other health problems like heart disease, Alzheimer's disease, and Leukemia.

For more information about Down Syndrome, please visit www.ndss.org.

If you are interested in starting your own Buddy Walk, visit www.buddywalk.org.

Studying Abroad Encouraged By Faculty And Staff

Faculty Members Have Formed Committee To Advertise An International Learning Environment

BY DORIAN WRIGHT
Staff Writer

Dr. Kimberly Cowell-Meyers and other professors on campus have formed the Virginia Tidewater Regional International Project (VTRIP). The goal of the VTRIP is to encourage students to study and work abroad.

Cowell-Meyers, from the department of Government and Public Affairs, is joined by Dr. George Hillow, Fine and Performing Arts, Dr. Danielle Cahill, Modern and Classical Languages and Literature, Dr. Kara Keeling, English and Dr. Nigel Sellars, History.

Cowell-Meyers, the team

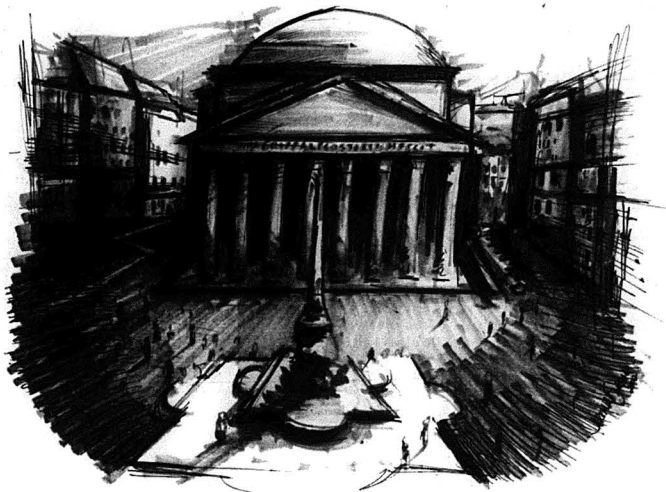
leader of the campus committee, explained that the VTRIP wants to encourage studying abroad by throwing fairs and starting a collection of books on studying abroad for the library.

"The kind of students the university is attracting want to study abroad," Cowell-Meyers said.

She stated that it's important to plan early if you want to study abroad. Traveling requires a severe schedule adjustment as well as a monetary commitment. Cowell-Meyers recommends studying abroad during a student's junior year.

The committee has purchased books on studying abroad that are housed in the library's reserve section. They have also surveyed departments to determine interest and flexibility in studying abroad programs, and Associate Provost Anne Perkins has re-instituted the International Studies Advisory Committee to help develop international programs at CNU.

Please see Issue 6 of The Captain's Log for a complete list of studying abroad opportunities.



The Pantheon in Rome is one of the places students can visit while participating in the study abroad program.

Illustration by Jeremiah Santiago/The Captain's Log

Candidates For Class Of 2006 Campaign And Await Election

Presidential Candidates Debate

BY EMILY USEEM
Staff Writer

After some initial problems, the Class of 2006 elections are finally getting underway.

There are 12 candidates total running for the positions of President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Public Relations Chair.

The candidates are currently in the process of campaigning.

Chris Krider with running mate Scott Hancock, Craig Whisenhunt with Ashley Lieb and Janeberry

Bodenstien with Billy Bouden, are running for the office of president and vice president respectively.

"I feel I am qualified for the position. And I enjoy using my leadership abilities to help my peers," Krider said.

Krider was class president his senior year of high school.

Krider said, "My goals, if elected freshman class president, are to fulfill any want or needs of the freshman class as a whole."

"I believe that we can get a lot accomplished," said Whisenhunt, "There is a lot of potential in this class."

Whisenhunt's goals are listed in a brochure that was slipped underneath the resident hall doors.

Among which are creating designated smoking areas, an indoor pool complex and a marching band.

Bodenstien was the class council secretary and president of the language club in high school.

Bodenstien said, "My main goal is to have the freshman class represented. I want to get everyone involved."

Christina Eggenberger, a SGA Senator on the elections committee, said a debate between the candidates was Oct. 8 in Anderson Auditorium. Voting is Oct. 9 - 10.

Please see the "Campus in Brief" section on page 2 for a complete list of voting venues and times.

Tiffany Slaughter is running unopposed for treasurer.

Erin McCoy, Jen Ramos and Abbie Tang are running for secretary.

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1200 North Military Hwy
(in front of Jerald Shopping Center)
465-8090

1304 Colley Ave
(in the heart of Chent)
465-8090
(closed Sundays)

Williamsburg
Marketplace Shoppers
465-9202 Monticello Ave
256-8100
(closed Sundays)

Chesapeake
Chesapeake Square Mall
4200 Portsmouth Blvd
465-8080
(M-F Sat 10am-9pm, Sun 12m-6p)

Crossways Center
1412 Greenbrier Pkwy
424-8122

Virginia Beach
Princess Anne Marketplace
2025 S. Independence Blvd
471-6940

606 Hilltop West Shopping Center
(at Larkin & First Colonial)
491-6213
4338 Virginia Beach Blvd
(1 block west of Willis Wayside)
285-8000

Hampton
Hampton Town Centre
12 Town Centre Way
827-9093

Yorktown
Elm Creek Shopping Center
3009 Victory Blvd
(near Super K Mart)
285-8000
(closed Sundays)

Military Exchanges
(open Sundays)
Mc Norfolk Elmore Marine Corps Exchange
NAS Little Creek Navy Exchange
NAS Oceana Navy Exchange
NS Norfolk Navy Exchange
NNSVD Portsmouth Navy Exchange

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Opinions

Where We Stand Re-examining Mindsets During Budget Reductions

It would be difficult to overemphasize the severity of the budget reductions that lay on Virginia's horizon. There will be massive layoffs across a wide cross-section of the Commonwealth. Lines will be longer at the DMV, Parks and Recreation will be unable to offer as many programs, and higher education will be cut bare.

The budget reductions that will be made public next Tuesday will be the most painful in the short history of this university.

Last year's budget cut of 3 percent forced the university to eliminate two faculty, raise tuition by 5 percent and limit library acquisitions. This next round of budget cuts will make last year look idyllic.

"I want you to...understand what the politicians have wrought," said President Trible in his address to the student body last Monday, and that is the crux of the matter.

The grievous situation in which we find ourselves rests wholly on the shoulders of the Governors and General Assemblies of the last decade. Virginia's spending on prisons per resident has risen 112 percent from 1980 to 2000, while per person spending on higher education has risen a meager 24 percent, this according to the Federal Department of Education and the Sourcebook of Criminal Justice Statistics and Justice Expenditures. Virginia has set its priorities, and they are not higher education.

When faced with such a seemingly insurmountable mountain of reductions, emotional responses can be expected. Feelings of powerlessness and of anger will be the norm, but need to be looked beyond. Radical times demand a radical mindset, students need to make the effort to educate themselves about what is happening at their university. Attending the President's address next Wednesday will be a start, but every student must go further.

Students must learn what will be reduced and what will be eliminated, and perhaps each student will be able to see past the trivial discomforts lacking cable or lack of enough ashtrays.

Psychic Reader Network Under Scrutiny

Don't Believe Everything The 900 Numbers Tell You, They Have Been Charged With Felony Fraud

BY MICHAEL RUFF
Contributing Writer

"Call me now," in that supposedly Jamaican accent. Most of us still remember Miss Cleo's commercials, promising to tell you what the future holds during your "free readin'."

According to a United Press International article, the CEOs of Access Resource Services and the Psychic Reader Network have been charged with felony fraud and were each fined \$50,000.

Together, the corporations made \$18.8 million off of the Cleo scam, which makes their fines a pretty small percentage of their profits.

United Press International calls it a "slap on the wrist," and is angry that L.A. actress Youree Dell Harris, aka Miss Cleo, was not indicted as well.

Maybe I am alone in this, but I never believed Miss Cleo could predict the future any better than a Magic 8 Ball. Even if she was believable, reaching her required dialing a 900 number.

These numbers are notorious for being very expensive and, in my opinion, scams.

I am not justifying what they did. I think anyone who takes advantage of gullible people is despicable.

On the other hand, if someone actually believes in Miss Cleo enough to call her, then that person deserves

what he gets ... to a certain extent.

The United Press International article mentions several underhanded schemes these two companies used to make more money.

The only remotely unacceptable method was charging callers for more money after they had already hung up the phone.

An additional problem mentioned was callers being placed on hold for extended periods of time.

Personally, I don't see this as a problem at all. Callers were never prevented from hanging up.

If they chose to stay on the line, they chose to pay for the time.

Parents being charged for calls made by their children was another controversy.

Who did these parents think was going to pay for the calls?

Granted, if the phone operators could tell that they were talking to a kid, they

should certainly hang up.

However, after about the age of 14, it is very difficult to differentiate between an adult and a minor on the ba-

“ Stay away from the 1-900 numbers, the infomercials, and the Internet pop-up ads ”

sis of voice alone.

Parents need to take responsibility for their children.

My parents made it very clear to me that I needed their permission if I was planning on dialing more than seven digits.

These days, your phone can be set up to require a code to dial any toll numbers with a device or through the phone company.

Sure, this will probably cost money, but very little in comparison to even 10 minutes with Miss Cleo.

This entire situation could have been easily avoided.

Companies have a hard time taking advantage of people when they are being responsible consumers. Research something that seems too good to be true.

In the case of psychics, ask the question, "Would they spend all day on the phone listening to my problems if they could really tell the future?"

My personal advice to anyone affected by this scam: stay away from the 900 numbers, the infomercials, and the Internet pop-up ads.

They are only going to put you into more debt. Caveat emptor.

B.A. In B.S.

By Jeromie Heath

"NO, YOU WANT THE REGISTRAR'S OFFICE. TAKE 1 COPY TO FINANCIAL AID AND 1 COPY TO THE INFO DESK. SIGN THE LAST PAGE AND BRING THAT TO ADMIN 413. THEN..."



The Captain's Log

2002 - 2003 Staff

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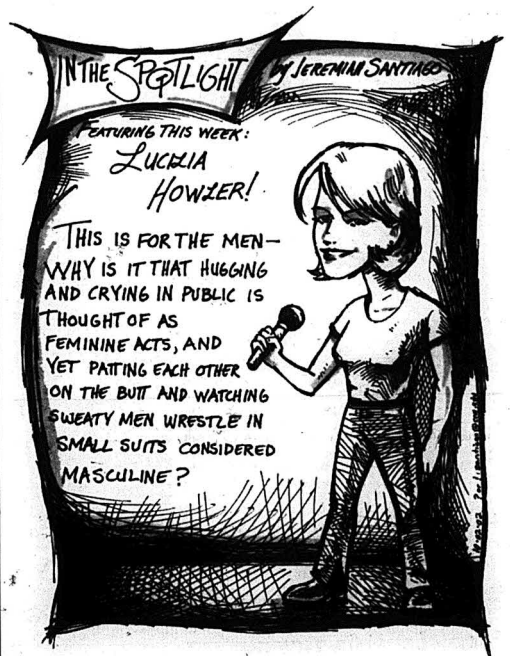
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Anonymous letters may be printed, but writers must sign the original, providing a full address and telephone number for verification purposes.

Students: please indicate your class status. If the writer is affiliated with an organization, that may be noted.

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ArTs & EnTertainmEnt

CNU TONIGHT Keeps Us Laughing Into Its 4th Year

Campus Comedy Sketchers Keep It Clean

BY JOE AMBROGNE
STAFF WRITER

CNU TONIGHT has provided audiences with entertainment for four years.

Students Josh Mahler and Jon Scott formed CNU TONIGHT in the fall of 1999. Their idea was to write and perform comedy shows reminiscent of "Saturday Night Live." The first cast had only 12 members; but the group has grown drastically since then.

"We've never had more than 18 members until this year," Chris Rice, the group's head writer and co-producer, said. "Now we have 45."

Rice, a two-year member of CNU TONIGHT, leads the organization with co-producer and director KT Peterlin. Their mission is to provide clean-sketch comedy for CNU, about CNU, written by CNU students. Each show consists of various skits, jokes and scenes performed by the cast. Humorous videos and musical performances are also included, adding to the variety.

"We usually spend no more than two weeks rehearsing for performances," Rice said. "Generally, we spend between four and five weeks writing skits."

CNU TONIGHT's organization enjoys the work as much as their audiences do.

"It's a lot of fun," junior Dana Spontak, who has been a member for two and half to three and a half years, said. "It's great to be able to write something and get a reaction from your audience, and then

feedback from fellow members."

However, one of the greatest rewards of working with CNU TONIGHT, admits both Spontak and Rice, is simply making other people laugh.

The skits and scenes of

"If you can do a sketch without cursing or obscenity, that's talent."

-Dana Spontak

each performance must follow one basic rule, and that is that they be free of adult language and similarly inappropriate themes. The performers of CNU TONIGHT have always given their audiences cleanly written comedy, and this has not seemed to lessen their success.

"If you can do a sketch without cursing or obscenity, that's talent," said Spontak.

CNU TONIGHT's first show of the fall semester was in the Gaines Theater on Thursday, Sept. 26. The show brought hundreds of students to the theater. In fact, the auditorium could not hold everyone who came, and many students were prohibited to enter.

The next show is scheduled for some time in November. Members are confident that it will meet with just as much success as the last one. However, member Michael Schwartz, a first-year student, warned that "you should come early, or you probably won't get in."

Author Of Fight Club Throws New Punches In New Book

'Lullaby' By Chuck Palahniuk Is An Intriguing, Intense Read

BY EMILY USEEM
STAFF WRITER

"Sticks and Stones may break your bones but words will never hurt you," or so we think. Chuck Palahniuk, author of extremely diverse novels such as *Fight Club* and *Choke*, dares to rethink this statement in his new work *Lullaby*.

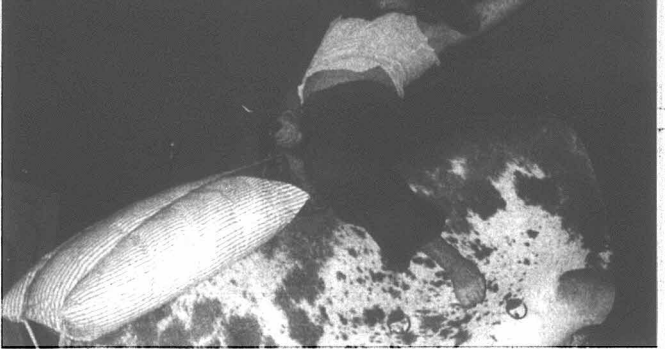
Lullaby starts out with Carl Streiner, a newspaper reporter, doing research for a series of articles on sudden infant death syndrome. Throughout his investigation, Streiner discovers that a book of poems opened to page 27 is placed in each of the victims' bedroom. The poem, known as an African culling song, is said to be able to kill the person it is being spoken to. But Streiner learns something else. The culling song can be thought out instead of spoken. When Streiner first

discovers the song, he uses it against people who annoy him. But as the story unfolds, Streiner becomes an involuntary serial killer unable to control when the culling song strikes a victim.

Hoping that very few people have learned about the culling song, Streiner enlists the help of Helen Hoover Boyer, a haunted house real estate agent who uses the culling song to assassinate others for jewelry, along with her Wicca secretary, Mona, and Mona's obnoxious boyfriend Oyster, who makes a decent book to read. Like Palahniuk's other books, the storyline is very daring and original, and his characters very eccentric. Chuck Palahniuk has such a talent for grabbing the reader's attention, you will begin to can't wait to see what happen on the next page.

All in all *Lullaby* was a decent book to read. Like Palahniuk's other books, the storyline is very daring and original, and his characters very eccentric. Chuck Palahniuk has such a talent for grabbing the reader's attention, you will begin to can't wait to see what happen on the next page.

Mechanical Bull Blows Into Savannahs'



Tom Storrer/The Captain's Log

Debatable Topics, Relatable Views: There Ain't No Bull-Sittin Allowed!

BY STEPHANIE HEINATZ
& JESI OWENS

Managing Editor & A&E
Editor

Stephanie's Take:
"Ride it like you are having sex."

Those were the last words I heard as my body was thrust back and forth with the goal of throwing me on the floor.

Monday night I ventured to Savannah Gold. Recently, they have started offering "Mechanical Bull Riding," exclusively, though, on Monday nights.

Now, to give you a little background, I grew up believing that Johnny Cash and Randy Travis were God's gift to music. Country livin' is my life. I live on an old farm, I enjoy working in my yard, when channel surfing on TV I often stop to watch the rodeo, and when I am driving down the road, you can find me jammin' to Tim McGraw, Alan Jackson, and Travis Tritt. Suffice it to say, I am a country girl!

When I went to ride the bull, however, I found myself scared to death. I did not want to fall off and I did not want to hurt my-

self. Nevertheless, I jumped on, and listened for my instructions.

I did not just scream, let her ride. Instead, I begged the operator to be easy on me. At this, the woman behind the microphone told everyone that it is always the most instructions!

I grabbed on with one hand, threw the other in the air, and screamed at the top of my lungs to give it to me!

I lasted all of three seconds, maybe. To say that all country people can ride bulls and round horses is an incorrect stereotype. I rode the bull all right, but not very well. But was it worth it? OH YEAH! Warning to the next victims, your legs will hurt!

Jesi's Take:

Savannah's. The only place I've ever been where Alabama and Eminem are played back-to-back as people in cowboy hats grind with partners in do-rags. Incidentally, I normally wear neither, and was, therefore, skeptical about this little outing. Then Rufus came along. Rufus is no ordinary experience. In fact, one person at Savannah's described

him as a "rocking horse on crack." Rufus is a mechanical bull.

I walked into the bar last Monday night—the only night of the week Rufus is available—ready for an adventure. As (simultaneously, mind you) country boys rode the bull, the Beastie Boys blared through the speakers, and Olivia Newton-John's "I Honestly Love You" pitifully whispered on the karaoke machine, I simply looked around and took it all in.

Then I rode the bull.

If you're ever looking for an inner-thigh workout but have only seven seconds, I highly recommend this machine. I walked off of it bow-legged, and still feel that way now. And it was so much fun! The first ride is free, the second is \$3, and any more rides after that are \$2 a piece.

Savannah's has had the mechanical bull in action every Monday night for the past two months. According to co-owner Blenda Gulleddge, the bull is "Wonderful."

Gulleddge said, "You know college students. They want to know something new. They're adven-

turous."

Adventurous, indeed. You hop on the bull—which is an adventure in itself when you're wearing tight jeans (I was). Then you're told to hold on with only one hand, squeeze tight and lean back. Yee-Haw!

Gulleddge has noticed an increase on students frequenting Savannah's. She said, "It really picks up on Monday nights for us."

Rufus surely has a lot to do with that pick up, but more changes are occurring at Savannah's. They are now open seven days a week, with food specials for CNU students every night. Also, the last two Thursdays of each month feature local band Fine Swiss Cheese, who plays covers to the crowd.

Not only does the bull attract a crowd on Monday nights, thanks to Fine Swiss Cheese, they're also "packed the last two Thursdays of each month," according to Gulleddge.

Overall, though I'm no country girl, or even a L wannabe, Savannah's made some of my future Mondays a mechanical bull night.

Sweet Home Alabama: Semi-Sour Flick

BY PAUL FROMMELT
Staff Writer

It's very hard to make a brilliant movie; a movie that redefines cinema and immediately becomes pop culture lore. It's also very hard to make a bad movie. Now, mediocre romantic-comedies seem to grow on trees. I think screenwriters could write a one in their sleep. The movies are so formulaic:

"Boy and girl meet; boy and girl fall in love; problem involved; Boy and girl break up; Boy does something drastic; Boy and girl get back together; The End."

"Sweet Home Alabama," starring Reese Witherspoon is far from bad, but it isn't very good either. It appears that screenwriters Douglas J. Eboch and C. Jay Cox stayed up all night listening to Lynard Skynard and watching "The WB" before they started work on the

script. The story follows Melanie Carmichael (Witherspoon) as she prepares for her first big fashion show (she's a designer) and becomes engaged to her beau, Andrew Hennings (Patrick Dempsey). Her life seems perfect. Her fashion show is a big success and she and Andrew plan to have a lavish wedding in Ireland and the end of the year. But Melanie has a problem. She can't get married. She is already married. When Melanie was just a young country gal in Alabama, she married her childhood love, Jake Perry (Josh Lucas), only to run out on him in search of a better life. Now that her past has caught up to her, Melanie must go back to the place she ran away from in order to get a divorce. But when she gets to Alabama, what will happen when she sees her former flame? Will she fall for him again? Will she stay with Andrew?

The biggest flaw with this movie is that the character of Melanie is so incredibly unlikeable. She comes of as a huge elitist and mocks her childhood friends while simultaneously lying to all of

her friends in New York. She disrespects her former lover and lies to her current lover so many times that I found myself rooting for the two guys to dump her and go on with their lives. This ruins any hope of me becoming involved in the storyline because I could really care less. While detaching myself from the film, I was still able to enjoy the few snippets of comedy that were occasionally sprinkled in. While most of the jokes fall flat, the ones that were successful kept on dragging me back from the concession stand.

None of the actors gave a performance worth praise. As is the theme of this review, they weren't bad, but definitely not Academy pleasing. It looked as if director Andy Tennant put Witherspoon's paycheck right above the camera to remind her of her motivation.

Seriously, this is a date movie. My date loved it and already has the DVD release marked on her calendar. Most girls will defiantly think the movie is cute with funny moments and I doubt that Tennant was trying for anything other than that.



Photo Courtesy KRT Campus

Reese Witherspoon & Co. take New York down South in *Sweet Home Alabama*, in cinemas now.

Sports

The Captain's Log

Parents Trade Safety For Student's Death

FSU Student Suddenly Died Due To Excessive Exercise

BY JOSH ROBBINS
KRT Campus

The parents of former Florida State football player Devaughn Darling sued the university Wednesday, alleging that the school's coaches and trainers were responsible for their son's death last year.

Darling died on Feb. 26, 2001, after collapsing following a 75-minute set of conditioning exercises known as "mat drills."

He was 18 years old.

The suit, prepared by a Stuart-based law firm headed by famed trial lawyer Willie E. Gary and filed in Leon County Circuit Civil Court, claims that Darling "began to experience difficulty breathing and was dizzy and fell down."

"He was ordered to begin the exercises over."

Florida State University General Counsel Richard McFarlain declined comment Wednesday, but he has said that the school was not negligent in Darling's death.

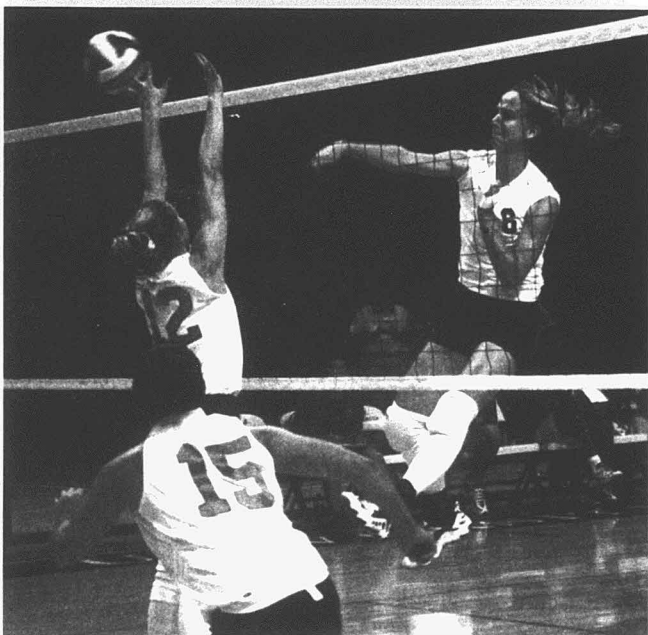
An autopsy conducted by the Leon County Medical Examiner's office did not find a conclusive cause for Darling's death. But Darling, and his twin brother, Devard, possessed a sickle-cell trait in his blood that has been linked in some studies to sudden-exercise death.

An investigation by the FSU Police Department cleared coaches and trainers of blame in Darling's death.

The lawsuit did not cite a specific amount of damages, nor did it identify any

Please see *Darling*, page 9

Volleyball Jumps To A Win



Oksana Boukhchina of the CNU volleyball team nails a spike against Chowan College on Oct. 3. The Captains are currently undefeated in the Dixie Conference with a 7-0 record. They hold a 13-5 overall record.

The Captains Are Currently Undefeated With A Record Of 7-0

BY TOM GEARY
Staff Writer

The CNU volleyball team demonstrated their prowess once again as they defeated Dixie Conference for Chowan College (5-14 overall, 2-5 Dixie Conference) in three games.

The game took place on Oct. 3 in the Freeman Center.

The Captains won 30-23, 30-19 and 30-23, respectively. With the victory, the Captains improve to 13-5 overall and 7-0 in the Dixie Conference.

Senior Oksana Boukh-

tina obviously led the way for the Captains. The Russian-born outside hitter scored with 20 kills and two blocks.

Setter Nina Richardson finished with 30 assists and six digs while freshman Kristy Severin added 10 digs.

Despite winning the match in straight games, many agreed that it was not the team's best performance to date.

"I don't think that was our best game, at all," Richardson said. "Tonight, we just didn't come together as a team and we didn't play that well."

Chowan (5-14 overall, 2-5 in the conference) came out strong, giving the Captains all they could handle in the first game.

The lead changed hands several times until CNU finally pulled away on a 5-1 run and never looked back, taking the game 30-23.

"I don't think that was our best game, at all. Tonight, we just didn't come together as a team and we didn't play that well."

- CNU Setter Nina Richardson

plenty of cushion for the 30-19 win.

In the third and final game, CNU's 10-3 run late in the contest helped the team to a 30-23 win.

CNU has now defeated all seven of the conference opponents after the first half of conference play.

Despite this seeming impressive record, coach Lindsay Sheppard believes that the team still has a long way to go if they want to repeat as conference champions.

"We're never satisfied," Sheppard said. "We're progressing slowly, but we've got a long way to go. We need to play consistent against all opponents."

The Captains travel to Winchester, Va. today, for the team's next match.

CNU faces Shenandoah University at 7 p.m.

After taking a 5-0 lead in the second game, CNU allowed Chowan to get back into the game at 9-9.

The Captains responded with a 10-0 run, providing

Field Hockey Loses 2-1

Captains Upset By Roanoke's Win In Overtime

BY VIRGINIA MILLER
Staff Writer

CNU field hockey lost 2-1 in overtime for the second game in a row to Roanoke, leaving the head coach "bewildered."

This is Roanoke's third win in overtime.

"I knew it was going to be a good, tough game," coach Sue Manchua said. "The teams were equal in skill levels."

Roanoke scored the first goal of the game in the first 10 minutes of the half.

"Both teams played well," Manchua said. "We had opportunities to score just didn't put it in the goal."

For the rest of the first half, the teams exchanged field position back and forward.

CNU came out to play a stronger game in the second half, with Ashley Roberson scoring on an assist by Kristi Parker with 27 minutes left in the game.

"They played better the second half," Manchua said. "We evened the score and played with higher morality and intensity."

Although CNU lost, the field hockey team outshot Roanoke 22-13.

Roanoke had 12 saves to CNU's eight.

Roanoke scored early in sudden death overtime, causing CNU to lose the game.

"We weren't ready for the overtime and had a bad start," Manchua said. "Roanoke just outplayed us."

In overtime, the field hockey teams went from 10 players and one goalie per team on the field to six players and one goalie on the field.

We wanted to open up the field and make it a faster-paced game in overtime," said Manchua.

Manchua also believes that the length of an overtime game is difficult for all teams.

Please see *Field*, page 9



Jonelle Hanson and Jennifer Byrum, No. seven and 10, respectively, of the field hockey team, go for a goal against Roanoke College on Oct. 6.

Kita Haynes/The Captain's Log

Darling, continued from page 6
FSU coaches or trainers as defendants.

"The unfortunate part about civil litigation is that we can't turn the clock back, and we can't bring people back," said Michael A. Lewis, a representative in Gary's firm who represents Darling's parents, Dennis Darling Sr. and Wendy Smith. "If we had a choice, what we really would like to have would be Devaughn back."

Under Florida statute, judgments against state agencies such as FSU are capped at \$200,000. But the state Legislature can approve larger settlements and payments to plaintiffs.

The Florida Department of Insurance's division of risk management handles lawsuits filed against state agencies. Trilly Lester, the division's director, said she could not comment on whether there have been settlement discussions with the Darling family's attorneys.

Field, continued from page 6

Despite the past two losses, Mancha is still planning to keep her strategy the same.

Keeping the passes short and holding possession over the ball, she said, is in her plans. She believes this will help CNU win the next few games.

"Even with the losses, I still saw good things done by my girls," Mancha said. The field hockey team is 4-4 right now with five games left in the season.

The Captains played at Longwood at 4 p.m.

They will also play two back-to-back games on Oct. 19 and 20.

One is a home game against Lynchburg and one is an away game against Mary Washington.

The field hockey team will finish their season away from home, playing St. Mary's and Hood College on Oct. 23 and Oct. 26, respectively.

Events In Sports This Week

Football: Oct. 12 vs. Greensboro, 1 p.m.
Oct. 19 at Chowan, 1 p.m.

Men's Soccer: Oct. 9 at Shenandoah, 4 p.m.
Oct. 12 vs. Messiah, 7 p.m.

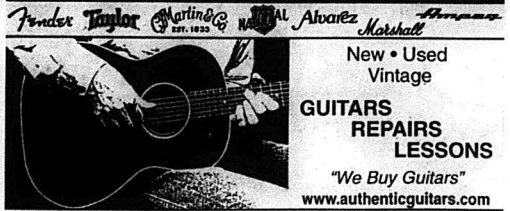
Women's soccer: Oct. 11 at Shenandoah, 4 p.m.

Volleyball: Oct. 9 at Shenandoah, 7 p.m.
Oct. 10 vs. Washington & Lee, 5 p.m.

Field hockey: Oct. 19 vs. Lynchburg, 2 p.m.

Cross country: Oct. 19 at Mason-Dixon Champ.

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