

The Captain's Log

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England adds chemistry to Gaines

Independent singer-songwriter performs emotionally charged music despite power failure

By Heather McGinley
Captain's Log Intern

For those double majoring in chemistry and world music, forget what the Office of Career and Counseling may advise. Forget what your mother may have told you about the real world. Try taking some advice from Kyler England, graduate of NC State University and award-winning musician. England performed in the Gaines Theater at 8 p.m. this past Friday and is well versed not only in world music, but isn't too shabby with protons and electrons.

Chemistry and world music do not seem to provide an appropriate base for a career in rock and roll, but this seems to have worked out for England. She is the winner of various awards such as 1st Place in the 2003 Mid-Atlantic Songwriting Contest and several in the 2002 North Carolina Songwriters Competition.

Some of England's inspiration comes from her mother, who died of cancer in October of 1996. Throughout England's life, her mother told her "What I want for you is first to be a good person and

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Kyler England performed Jan. 16 in Gaines Theatre. She is an award-winning singer-songwriter who performs inspirational music. "I don't intend to impress people with my music; I intend to move them. ... I really want to move people because that's what I love about music, when it gets me in the gut," she said.

Surrounded by high city crime rates, CNU rates remain low

By Lindsay Simpson
Staff Writer

Students applying to CNU are commonly bombarded with information regarding the university's safety and security, even though Newport News was found to have a higher crime rate than the national average, according to areaConnect.com.

Newport News is an expanding city of over 180,000 people, according to areaConnect.com, which recently released its evaluation of Newport News's overall crime index, based on everything from murder and rape to thefts and arson.

In 2002 alone, there were 3,078.84 reports of larceny for every 100,000 people in the city, compared to the national average of 2,445.8 for every 100,000 people, according to the evaluation.

With such a high crime rate in the city, there have been questions as to how the campus has remained relatively unaffected.

In 2000, 2001 and 2002 combined there were no murders on campus and only three forcible sex offenses, as provided by the Office of Post Secondary Education, compared to Newport News's 20 murders and 106 forcible rapes, according to areaConnect.

Some attribute the low crime rate to the University Police, who have 501 full-time and 137 part-time employees.

The University Police are an independent force from the Newport News Police Department.

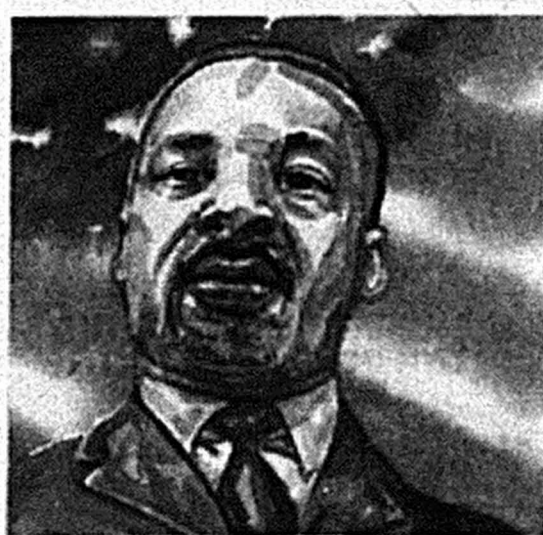
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NAACP e-mail catalyst for debate

Resuming classes for King's birthday has mixed responses

By Jon Allegretto
Captain's Log Intern

Over the course of the past week at CNU, much controversy has been developed concerning CNU remaining open on the holiday celebrating the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., a man who fought for racial equality and to unite America over three decades ago. Much of the debate has been low key, and mainly expressed through campus-wide e-mails sent on and before the holiday on Jan. 19.



Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

In a letter addressed to President Tribble and mailed to everyone with a CNU e-mail account, the Executive Board of the CNU chapter of the NAACP stated their concern and stance on the importance of the holiday and

mentioned the issue of CNU not closing its doors as a means to commemorate.

The e-mail acknowledged King's importance in the history of civil rights in this country and asked Tribble to recognize the holiday by means of a personal e-mail message to the entire campus.

The e-mail said, "We, the CNU NAACP chapter, are asking the that the University recognize this day as an important symbolic day in history." The letter was sent by Senior Kezia Williams of the CNU NAACP chapter, and she said the decision was made by a majority vote during a general body meeting earlier in the semester.

Williams also said that,

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Parking still available despite freshmen cars

By Lacey Milburn
Staff Writer

With an estimated 600 new cars on campus, everything still went smoothly last week, said Director of Development Margaret Yancey.

Yancey, who spoke with Student Center Operations Manager Andy Mansfield, said that the prediction of 600 new cars was not exact because parking passes were still being sold.

"At the busiest time on the busiest day, which was Monday, he (Mansfield) counted 175 open spaces," Yancey said.

With freshmen bringing in cars this semester, more spaces needed to be added. Two hundred-fifty spaces were added in the lot next to Shoe Lane, and 300 along Warwick, where buildings were demolished.

Freshmen who brought new cars to campus were charged \$150 for the semester parking pass.

Junior Elaine Kirby said, "I paid \$75 for my parking pass." Kirby wondered if the full price for

freshmen was intended to discourage them from bringing cars on campus.

Yancey said that all money from parking passes goes into the revenue parking fund to help build more lots, as well as the parking garage that is currently under construction. She said the garage is scheduled for completion in April 2004 and would add 500 new spaces in the parking deck as well as 250 in the adjoining lot.

The contractor for the parking garage is S. B. Ballard of Virginia Beach, said Executive Vice President Bill Brauer.

Edwin Stringfield of S. B. Ballard said that the garage has been planned to be ready on May 6, 2004, not April 2004.

"We have some issues, but we are still on schedule," he said. According to Stringfield, the garage will have 468 total spaces and will cost CNU a total of \$8 million.

He explained that CNU was paying through "progress payments."

"A percentage of the work



Jon Allegretto/The Captain's Log

Sophomore Mike Dorn, working for Parking Services, directs traffic on Jan. 13 at the Shoe Ln. entrance to CNU.

must be completed by a certain time and part of the money is paid for the amount of work done," said Stringfield.

New CSA Moylan offers fresh ideas for student life

By Ashley Rich
Captain's Log Intern

Located in the back office in the Office of Student Life, situated among various calendars, schedules, and notes is CNU's newest faculty member, Ms. Jennifer (Jen) Moylan, the new Coordinator of Student Activities (CSA).

Only two weeks into her new position, Moylan is already hard at work bringing things together for the upcoming student events and activities.

Moylan comes to CNU from Radford University, where she worked for three years as the Coordinator of Student Leader Resources. At Radford, she worked to provide support and guidance for over 200 clubs and organizations, as well as organize leadership development resources for the students.

Her responsibilities changed, however, when she came to CNU.

As the Coordinator of Student Activities, Moylan's job includes providing support and leadership for clubs and organizations.

"I've always had an interest in student activity," Moylan said, "specifically entertainment activities." So when she was offered the position of CSA, she couldn't turn it down.

Associate Dean of Students Donna Eddleman will serve as Moylan's supervisor. She said, "Jen's position is vitally important, especially given the direction in which the university is moving. The number of students living on campus is increasing, so we need to have programs in place that go beyond the classroom."

Moylan agrees.

"CNU is in the middle of a period of change and growth," Moylan said, "and I'm very excited to be a part of that."

One of Moylan's main responsibilities is to work very closely with members of the Campus Activity Board (CAB) and assist them in providing quality entertainment for the CNU community that meets both the students' needs and interests. "I'll be serving as their advisor," Moylan said, "so I'll be attending executive board meetings as well as general meetings. But I see my role as more than that," she said. "I see myself as right there with them. I hope to develop a strong relationship with them because I envision us working closely together."

Lynanne Hodges, Publicity and Promotions Chair for CAB, is hoping for the same kind of relationship.

"Jen will be advising CAB about events and helping us to coordinate them," Hodges said, "but CAB will be responsible for running all those events. I hope she helps the students be students first," she continues, "and lets them know everything's not all on them, that there are outside sources."

Moylan realizes that students are faced with these outside sources as well.

"I will be there to support them," she said. "The students

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Winter Commencement

Governor Mark Warner speaks at commencement. He is the first governor of Virginia to deliver a commencement address in the 44-year history of CNU.

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World & Nation

Suicide bombers attack coalition headquarters in Baghdad, killing 18 Iraqis.

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A&E

Students go country at line dancing event in Freeman Center last Saturday.

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Sports

After a slow start to the season, men's basketball team is 2-0 in conference.

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The Captain's Log

Campus In Brief

French club to have first meeting of semester

The French club will have their first meeting on Jan. 21 to discuss plans to attend the Documentary Film Festival in Richmond this spring.

Faculty recital open to all

CNU will present a faculty recital with clarinetist Marvin Western and pianist Ruth Winters at Gaines Theater on Jan. 22 at 8 p.m.

Karaoke returns

CAB will be hosting karaoke night on Jan. 21 from 8-10 p.m. in Discovery Café. Singers who are first to come and sign up are first to sing.

ACM to hold meeting

The Association for Computing Machinery will hold a meeting Jan. 21 at 12 p.m. in GOSN 111.

Plans for the upcoming semester and planning for this semester's MADDEN 2004 Tournament will be discussed.

Pre-law fraternity to hold semester's first meeting

The first meeting of Phi Alpha Delta will be Jan. 21 at 5:30 p.m., upstairs in the Student Center.

Freeman Center to offer new fitness class

The Freeman Center will be offering a trial class for all those who are interested in learning how to belly dance.

All those interested should attend on Jan. 21 5:30-6:45 p.m. in the Freeman Center multipurpose room.

-Compiled by
Lindsay Simpson
Staff Writer

England shares emotions through music

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then second to do what you love and to be happy."

"She always believed in me and encouraged me to do what I love," England said.

England wrote the songs on the album "How Many Angels?" to help her deal with the death of her mother. These songs were penned with purpose, allowing England to heal, as well as aiding listeners who cope with similar tragedies. England also produced this album to raise funds for Triangle Hospice, the North Carolinian organization that cared for her mother and family during her mother's last days. Half of the money earned from that album is given directly to this Hospice organization.

England is inspired by fellow independent artists she meets along the way, as well as the Indigo Girls, Joni Mitchell, Sarah McLachlan, Coldplay, Sting, Patty Griffin, Tori Amos, Peter Dinklage, David Meade, David Gray and Jonathan Brook.

"I'm a big fan of beautiful voices and really honest writing that goes straight to your soul ... not glitzy, pop-y stuff that doesn't feel sincere ... I really like sincere, personal stuff that goes straight to the heart," England said.

"Whatever really moves me is what I write about" England said. "I don't intend to impress people with my music; I intend to move them. ...

I really want to move people because that's what I love about music, when it gets me in the gut."

England said that her subject matter is often based on "something emotional that is close to me. Whether that is something going on in my life, an event or something I am trying to work through emotionally ... or maybe it is something wonderful and happy ... it's not always a low point."

England's musical style may be best described as similar to that of Sarah McLachlan, yet more upbeat and energetic. England is poetic with a captivating yet gentle voice like the Christian artist Sarah Groves. When England performs, her energy and passion for music are evident in her speech, her stance, her constant smiling and looking around at the audience. England's voice is clear—not rough and gravelly which is typical of many female artists in the rock and alternative category. England's fans nearly missed the opportunity to hear this voice as she prepared for her 8 p.m. concert in Gaines Theater last Friday.

An area wide power outage nearly deterred England efforts to perform, but as they say in the biz "the show must go on." In the confusion, England and CNU staff planned to move to York River East, as York River and McMurren are the only buildings on campus with generator power. As England prepared to set up there, the lights across campus flickered on and England decided to move back to Gaines, although it may not have been the optimal venue for such a performer.

Front and center stage of the Gaines is known for being somewhat of a "sound trap." During England's per-

formance her toe tapping (sometimes necessary for performers) would occasionally echo in a way that was just noticeable enough to make some impact on her delivery. This echo happens during other concerts and plays in Gaines. Also, there was a bit of ringing back on the louder points of certain songs. I am not sure whether this was the fault of a bit too much amplification, the proximity of speakers to microphone, or the sound trap (yet again)—this did not totally alter and devastate the performance but, to those of us who noticed, the condition of such was not optimal.

The lighting for this performance and the overall volume and sound was great—the combined consultation between CNU staff and England made it so. White wash lighting was an excellent choice as a single "spot" would have been impersonal. The England's position on the stage and the location of two large speakers to either side and in front of England did however distance England from the audience. Moving England to the front, however, would have increased the effect of the sound trap.

The audience may have realized from England's performance that her sound has this incredible lasting vibe; it carries meaning and grasps the consciousness/awareness as something that will remain with you forever. Hopefully she has staying power beyond the "one hit wonders" of present day pop culture.

Some critics may classify England as "indie" now but it seems she's on the road to greater things career-wise. If you missed the concert or just want to know more, check www.kylerengland.com for more info.

Moylan adjusts to new position at CNU

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in CAB play a major role in determining the entertainment for future events, and we're going to plan it together."

Moylan believes her background experience will help her as she begins her new position.

"My degree is in psychology," she said, "so I have experience in counseling, and that allows me to build relationships with students. I've also worked with other clubs and organizations, so I know that experience will help, too."

Moylan also volunteered a lot of time with the CAB at Radford, so she said she has a "sort of prior knowledge of how things run."

Eddleman believes Moylan brings even more qualities to both the position and the university.

"Jen will bring fresh ideas to CNU," Eddleman said. "Coming from Radford, Jen will have new thoughts, new ideas for programs, and new insights. Most importantly, Jen is bringing fresh perspective. She is asking 'why?' If she asks why, and we don't know the answer, then she's acting as a system of checks and balances for us, and I think that's really healthy."

With all those skills and experiences to help her, Moylan believes she is adjusting well to her job.

"It's always a challenge to take on a new position," she said. "I'm having to learn how to take care of all the details of bringing everything together for activities because that's not something I'm used to. There's so much involved. Contracts, communicating with agencies, discovering the performer's needs and accommodating them, but I'm learning quickly."

That's where Eddleman comes into play.

"I see myself as a resource," Eddleman said. "I help her understand what works and what doesn't, the campus culture, and the logistical, behind-the-scenes things she needs to know. But I'm also her cheerleader," Eddleman said. "I will be there for her, and I will support her and her position."

Another thing Moylan is adjusting to is the level of student involvement on campus.

"There are fewer clubs and organizations at CNU, so student involvement is higher," Moylan said. "I'm excited about that. I'm motivated by high student interaction," she said, "and that's what I see here. It's so nice, so awesome to have that."

As Moylan's familiarity with CNU procedures, policies, and operations

increase, her goals for her position will become more easily attainable. "Though it's hard to establish clear goals because I'm still learning, my ultimate goal is to provide quality entertainment for the CNU community," she said. "I want to implement the events and activities for the spring then assess how well the students received them. I'll take those assessments and use them in planning next fall's events."

Her other goals include making a connection with clubs and organizations on campus and providing them with whatever assistance and/or leadership they need. She also wants to find new and exciting performers. "I really want to find out what the student population wants," Moylan said. "I want to identify

“It seems like everyone, including students, really supports one another, and that's incredible.”

-Jen Moylan

Coordinator of Student Activities

the things they want to see and do, and then I want to do my best to provide it for them."

Eddleman also has expectations for Moylan.

"Jen's background is in leadership," Eddleman said, "so I hope she can create transition workshops for leaders of clubs and organizations. It can be a challenge for a group to lose their student leaders, so I hope Jen can create a program that would let clubs know what kinds of things they need to be aware of and how things work operatively. Really," Eddleman said, "I hope Jen will make the transition between student leaders a smooth one."

Eddleman also hopes to see a more comprehensive student activity schedule, one in which students can be aware of the events taking place over the entire semester. She wants to see Moylan help better define the role of advisor as well as devise a better way to keep advisors aware of deadlines and events.

Moylan plans to accomplish such goals "by getting myself out on campus." She said, "I want to meet students. I want to make connections with clubs and organizations by coming to meetings and events. I want the students to know that I'm here as a resource. I want students to have a voice

in what comes to CNU," she said, "so I'm going to need their help, too."

Since Moylan knows she cannot complete her tasks alone, she hopes to bring to her position a sense of cooperation and collaboration in addition to enthusiasm and excitement. "I'm very much a team player," she said, "and I know it's going to take all of us working together to reach our common goal."

Eddleman has noticed Moylan's desire for togetherness, even though she has only been at CNU for a few weeks.

"Jen is really reaching out," Eddleman said. "She's really making connections. Plus she's asking really good questions about the function and structure of things. In just two weeks, she's already proven that she's not an 8-5 person, and that shows a real commitment to the students, so I'm really excited about what I've seen in her so far."

Moylan gives credit to Jonathan Janis, the two-month interim who oversaw the responsibilities of the position, for much of the planning and preparation that had been done prior to her coming in.

"Jonathan is wonderful," Moylan said. "He came in and scheduled all the events for the spring semester. He did all the initial work, and I'm so grateful to him for that, for being able to secure those things."

Eddleman agrees.

"Much of where we are this semester is because of the work Jonathan did," she said. "He invested his time in making sure programs were established. The implementation of those events will demonstrate Jen's abilities."

Hodges believes Moylan will also have to possess some of the same qualities as Janis in order to succeed as he did. "Jonathan will definitely, definitely be missed because he was able to advise and kick back," Hodges said. "Jen seems to be able to do the same thing and she possesses a lot of energy, which is something needed for event planning at CNU."

Moylan understands Janis' influence.

"Jonathan has laid the foundation for me," Moylan said, "and I plan to carry it through, to uphold the foundation. In the two months he was here, he did a lot, and because of that, he's made the transition much easier."

But there are other things that have made Moylan's transition a fairly easy one.

"It really feels like a family here," she said. "Everyone has been so warm and made me feel so welcome. It seems like everyone, including students, really supports one another, and that's incredible. I just feel so privileged and honored to be a part of it all," she continues, "and I'm looking forward to getting things started."

and other basic lifesaving techniques."

Similar to the Newport News Police, the University's force can respond to any emergency within minutes. The average response time for the city's police department between July 1 and Dec. 31, 2003, is approximately 3.5 minutes.

University Police do not respond to emergencies solely by phone, but also by the numerous emergency call boxes, also known as "blue boxes" throughout the campus.

The emergency call boxes, according to Brown, "are another means to contact the University Police. ... the call boxes provide a convenient means to notify University Police of an emergency."

Virginia In Brief

Virginia coalition pushes for higher minimum wage

A Virginia coalition comprised of various religious, civil rights, and labor organizations supported a bill that would raise Virginia's minimum wage from the federal minimum of \$5.15 per hour to \$6.50 per hour, according to the Daily Press.

As told to the Daily Press, 12 states and Washington, D.C. have a higher minimum wage than the federal government's required \$5.15.

Virginia State Senator Yvonne Miller, a Democrat from Norfolk is the sponsor of the bill, according to the Daily Press.

Miller's bill has been supported by a variety of organizations ranging from the Virginia AFL-CIO to the Catholic Diocese of Richmond's Office of Justice and Peace. As told to the Daily Press, a dozen organizations are in full support of the bill to raise the state's minimum wage.

According to the Daily Press, there are 48,000 Virginians that earn the minimum wage of \$5.15 per hour, and there are 142,000 more Virginians who earn more than the allotted \$5.15, but less than the proposed \$6.50.

Men responsible for Virginia Beach robberies arrested

Two Virginia Beach men have been arrested for a series of six robberies and three attempted robberies that took place at six different restaurants in the Virginia Beach area during the months of Oct., Nov., and Dec. 2003, according to a press release from the Virginia Beach Police Department.

According to the release, the robberies took place at #1 Chinese on Ferrell Parkway on two separate occasions, Sav-A-Ton on Holland Road, and China Ocean on Holland Road was robbed three times within a two-week period.

The attempted robberies occurred at Panda Garden on Princess Anne Road, the 7-Eleven on Princess Anne Road, and China Wok on Lynnhaven Parkway, as stated by the police department's release.

The two men were arrested after the attempted robbery at the #1 Chinese Restaurant on Lynnhaven Parkway, according to the release.

One of the men had been waiting in a 1993 Chevy Beretta that was used as a get-away vehicle.

The first man returned to the get-away vehicle and fled immediately after discovering that the battery in the car had died, leaving the other suspect with the car, as stated by the release.

According to the release, the two men, Corey M. Palmer, 20 and Bryan A. Dickerson, 19, both Virginia Beach residents, were charged with one count of robbery and conspiracy and use of a firearm for the robbery of the #1 Chinese Restaurant on Jan. 15.

Charges for the 10 robberies prior to the #1 Chinese Restaurant will be filed against Palmer, according to the department's press release.

-Compiled by
Lindsay Simpson
Staff Writer

Safety remains a priority on campus

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ment, although, according to Lou Thurston, Media Relations for the Newport News Police Department, "we work closely together, and occasionally overlap."

"The University Police and the Newport News Police have a mutual aid agreement for law enforcement support," said CNU's Chief of Police Jeffery Brown. "They work hand-in-hand: we assist them wherever we can, and they do the same for us."

The University Police, according

to Brown, go through the same intense training as those who work as officers in Newport News and the surrounding areas.

"All University Police officers have successfully completed a 480-hour curriculum at one of the nine regional police academies in Virginia as required by the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services," Brown said. "This includes 40 hours of firearms qualifications and additionally 40 hours of in-service training biannually."

Training that the University Police receive also includes various lifesaving techniques.

"All police officers complete first responder training in the police academy," Brown said. "This does include CPR

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Governor Warner offers wisdom, addresses education funding at Winter Commencement

By Taryn Cornelius and
Jenn Rowell
Staff Columnist and
Managing Editor

"To laugh often and much, to win the respect of intelligent people and the affection of children, to earn the appreciation of honest critics and endure the betrayal of false friends, to appreciate beauty, to find the best in others, to leave the world a bit better, whether by a healthy child, a garden patch, or a redeemed social condition; to know even one life has breathed easier because you have lived. This is to have succeeded!"—Ralph Waldo Emerson, quoted by Gov. Mark Warner during the 75th Occasion of the Conferring of Degrees.

Although the attire peeking out from their gowns ranged from blue jeans to dress slacks, Sunday's graduates had one thing in common—they were excited. For some graduates, Jan. 11 meant the end of a traditional four-year education at Christopher Newport University. For others, though, it meant finishing a degree begun many more years before, or even waiting an extra semester to walk.

As they processed to their seats, graduates and members of the faculty were greeted by friends, family and members of the CNU community who had helped them achieve their soon-to-be graduate status.

C. Derek Pringle, a minister at the Emmanuel Episcopal Church in Hampton and father of Ryan Pringle, led the audience in a prayer at the beginning of the ceremony.

"Help them to face failure not as defeat but as a chance at a new start," said the elder Pringle.

Following the prayer, President Paul Tribble opened the ceremony by welcoming the audience and expressing his congratulations to the 75th Graduating Class from CNU.

He praised both the students' efforts and those of the faculty, saying, "They are a remarkable faculty who instruct and inspire our students."

Tribble's remarks were followed by those of Dr. Helmuth W. Trieshmann, Jr., rector of the Board of Visitors.

"We are mindful of our responsibility to you, the community and the Commonwealth," said Trieshmann.

"It is not acceptable to talk of supporting further education, yet continue to cut funding for higher education," said Tribble in his introduction for Warner.

Warner, the guest speaker for Winter Commencement, was the student speaker for his 1977 graduating class at George Washington University.

Quoting Churchill, Warner mentioned advice he had been given before his 1977 address. "Be clear, be concise, and be seated."

To the graduates, Warner mentioned the growth of success CNU has experienced, saying that they would be "forever linked" to a school he feels is surpassing its reputation of being hidden.

Warner told the graduates and guests, "We all know it hasn't been easy along the way. There have been growing pains and lots of soul-searching at this community grappled with preparing for the future. But make no mistake," he said, "In its zeal to grow, and to excel, and to prosper as an academic institution, this University has never lost sight of an even more important mission—to produce men and women who are firmly grounded in the values that are the essence of a civil society."

Those values, he said, are "tolerance. Pluralism. Intellectual curiosity. And public service."

He advised that graduates seek out family, friends and faculty who had helped them on their journey, and to convey appreciation for their support.

"Behind your degree stand plenty of hard work and sacrifice. And for that you should be very proud. But there are many other people behind your degree as well, and most of them are people you never met, and probably never heard of. These are people who already had degrees from other universities. They could have supported their own alma maters only. But they didn't. Many of those community leaders are here today," Warner said.

He addressed the current budget crisis and its effect on higher education as well.

"Virginia's colleges and universities have struggled through the worst fiscal crisis in modern Virginia history," said Warner. "We can't have education on the cheap. It costs money to build and operate the Freeman Center. It will cost

money to double the size of the library, and it will cost money to operate a larger library. And that money has to come from somewhere."

He said some of that money would come from tuition, but he called on graduates to donate money to their alma mater in the future.

"Hopefully some of it will come from you as graduates giving to your alma mater. And some of it must come from the state as a core investment," said Warner. "Keeping our commitment to education will require deep commitment by those Virginians who know the value of our colleges and universities."

Warner encouraged graduates to use their college degrees to give back to the community.

"That's why Virginia needs you—those who have entered the community of educated men and women—to support our universities, both with your own resources and in the public debates that go on in Newport News, in Hampton, in Richmond and Washington," Warner said. "Don't sit on the sidelines."

Warner was awarded an honorary degree from CNU.

The President's Award recipient was Corinne R. Hoffman, who graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in biology with a perfect grade point average of 4.0.

She followed in the footsteps of her two older sisters—both were also awarded the President's Award.

Hoffman now plans on moving to Richmond, Virginia, where she will begin medical school.

"What a young woman, what a family," said Tribble when presenting the award.

The ceremony, which lasted just over an hour, ended with cheers and clapping, as the graduating class paraded out.

Both inside and outside of the Freeman Center, graduates were surrounded by family and friends congratulating them and exchanging information with promises to keep in touch.

Graduate Farrar Howard, who majored in biology, admitted to joining in the feeling of excitement.

After finishing his degree in August, he waited to participate in the Winter Commencement ceremony, saying that he had enjoyed



President Tribble shakes hands with Ryan Pringle while handing him his certificate of degree at Winter Commencement on January 11. The ceremony's commencement speech was given by Gov. Mark Warner.

college but was relieved it was over.

His wait to walk had given him some time for the completion of his college career "to sink in."

Hired at the Hanover Sheriffs Office in December, he is now waiting to participate in the Police Academy and hopes to someday work with forensics in crime investigations.

Winter Commencement was coordinated by Special Events Coordinator Lucy Latchum.

Many university employees helped put on the ceremony.

"The row marshals who help with crowd control and help students line up are CNU staff who volunteer their time. Some of them have worked every graduation since my arrival in 1997. It is really campus-wide cooperation that makes the event a success," said Associate Dean of Students Donna Eddleman.

"The schedule change caused by Isabel meant that the Freeman Center staff and the Plant Operations staff worked Saturday night after a track meet to set up the stage, hang the large blue curtain and the flag and set up all the chairs and bleachers," said Eddleman.

As for other graduates, Brenda Lee Huffaker finished with a degree in Fine and Performing Arts after four years at CNU.

Her mother, Debbie, said "Amen" to her daughter completing her degree in four years.

She is working at Colonial Williamsburg to pay off undergraduate debts and saving money for graduate school. She hopes to pursue a career in speech therapy.

Now that college is done, she is "nervous, but that's to be expected. You don't know what's in the future."

"I like CNU a lot. I'm kind of sad. CNU has become my family. But it's time we move on and see what else is out there," Huffaker said.

"Commencement is always bittersweet," said Eddleman. "Leading the graduates in is truly the best part of my job and I consider it an honor and a privilege. For me, it is the best day of the year."

She said, "I will miss Donta Wade. I remember the day he arrived on campus. He worked for the Office of Student Life during most of his time here. It was a real pleasure watching him grow and change. Missy Taylor is another. She and I didn't always see eye-to-eye, but there was always a mutual respect and that made all the difference," said Eddleman. "They are both CNU success stories and they are each an important part of my personal CNU history."

Willie J. Carter graduated with a degree in Public Affairs Management.

Carter works locally and his wife, Gladdis, said, "He's just finishing up his degree. I was excited about that."

Technology fee comes at unexpected time, network problems persist

News Analysis

By Taryn Cornelius
Staff Columnist

Although recent news that CNU students pay over \$1,000 a year toward athletics and that CNU has some of the highest student fees in the state were not frustrating enough to students, as they turned in tuition bills this semester another \$90 fee was added.

In response to the state budget cuts, members of the CNU community decided that a \$90 telecommunications fee would be added to all residents' bills for the spring semester. The fee was to help cover the telephone and Internet connection fees for residents. Many residents feel that the fee was not only unnecessary, but also that it is unfair due to the unreliable status of the Internet.

At the beginning of the fall semester, the Internet was down for almost three weeks. Throughout the semester it continued to be unreliable, and many students commented that the Internet speed was now slower than that of a dial-up connection.

Students were given a variety of reasons from the IT Services Department: the system firewall being hacked through, viruses running rampant, and that downloading and file-sharing were also to blame. Over winter break the Eastside Internet was down for a week straight, then continued to go down at least once a day for several hours for several more days.

These Internet problems not only affected, annoyed, and angered on-campus residents but also off-campus residents who used the CNU site for research and online classes. For both on-campus and off-campus residents, the down time made it difficult to keep up

with CNU online courses, which are supposed to be conveniently accessible by the student.

Freshman Patrick Boylan, a James River Hall resident feels that the fees are unreasonable. Although his parents are currently paying his tuition, he stated that they too were unhappy about the fee, saying that it shouldn't have been changed in the middle of the year. "If they were going to put a fee on us, they should've done it at the beginning of the year," said Boylan, pointing out that the fee should not have been instated until the new academic year next fall.

Senior Thadeous Goodwyn, who lives in Eastside housing, does not believe that the fee should have been charged at all. "If the Internet would work it wouldn't be a big deal," said Goodwyn, "but it doesn't." Goodwyn, who is a Computer Science major, works as a system analysis in Northern Virginia and is familiar with the influx

of spam and viruses that networks face daily. He feels that the problems should have been resolved last semester though, and that the funds to do so should have already been present from previous tuition rates. "Either way, it's extremely disappointing that a university cannot maintain an Internet connection," said Goodwyn.

When asked if he felt students contributing an abundance of virus traffic to the network should temporary Internet privileges, he said they should, mentioning the mass amount of extra traffic the most common virus contributes. "They expect us to keep up with virus definitions...how are we supposed to do that if we don't have Internet?" However, he feels that CNU and specifically IT Services shouldn't expect any sympathy if they don't keep students updated. "The Internet nowadays is almost as important as the telephone," said Goodwyn who feels poorly

informed as to why the Internet situation is as bad as it is.

Junior Timothy Hopkins, an Information Science major, also lives in Eastside housing. Although he pays for his own tuition, he wasn't too bothered by suddenly having to pay an extra \$90. "Ninety dollars out of the thousands I'm already paying isn't bad. Now they don't have any excuse not to have an Internet connection though," said Hopkins.

Hopkins feels that the fee shouldn't have existed, but that also now that it was charged this semester, it shouldn't be repeated hereafter. With over 2,000 residents living on-campus this year, the Telecommunications fee should have contributed over \$200,000. Both Hopkins and Goodwyn agree that those funds should be more than sufficient to solve any problems IT Services is faced with over the spring semester.

SAFETY, from page 2

Each one of the call boxes is monitored by the University's Police Communications Center, Brown said. "The Communication Center is staffed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week," he said.

According to Brown, every emergency call box on campus is operational, and each box is tested monthly to ensure that they remain operational.

Although the emergency call boxes are primarily used for emergencies, students, staff and faculty can use them to request other various services, such as car lockouts.

With the police doing their best to keep the campus's crime down and respond quickly and efficiently to emergencies, it has become necessary to use some of the university's students.

Police Aides are generally known for being the highest paid job on campus, but few know the extent or the process to get a Police Aide's job.

"They [Police Aides] are hired through a competitive selection process which includes an interview and police background investigation. Police Aides receive policy and procedure training from the police officer in charge of the Police Aide program," said Brown. "Additionally, the Police Aides receive field training on the job with an experienced supervisor."

According to Kris Vincent, a sophomore and a Police

Aide, the field training usually consists of learning the ropes in the residence halls as Front Desk Assistants (FDA's) with a current Police Aide. "For the Front Desk Assistants or Front Desk PA's, we are to sit with an experienced Police Aide for 16 hours, that's two nights, then you're off on your own," she said. "For Lock Down security, it's three nights and then you're off on your own. You just observe what they do and basically try to mimic them."

As far as action in case of emergencies, the Police Aides "serve as eyes and ears" for the University Police, Brown said.

"We're not allowed to do much," Vincent said. "We can basically sit here and watch it happen and call it in. We're not allowed to do anything due to liability. Maybe in the future, but it's that Good Samaritans Law that has kind of a gray area."

Good Samaritan Laws are laws that protect one from liability for offering aid during an emergency; therefore it greatly affects the Police Aides and how they react in emergency situations.

Other safety measures that are proudly displayed by the school, and enforced by its own students, are the ID checks into the multiple residence halls and the bone-structure hand scans at the Freeman Center. The purpose of both security and safety measures is to deter any criminals or intruders from even attempting to get into the school and its facilities.

Although some students would prefer no ID checks or a more lenient check-in policy, other students found that the ID checks gave them an overall sense of security, such as senior and RA, Kestrel Elliott.

"I think they [ID checks] are important because we are in

the middle of a city and it's nice to know that while we are on campus only residents are getting into the building. I'd be a little uncomfortable, I think, if just anyone could waltz in here all the time," Elliott said.

Freshman Andrea Rowe disagrees.

"We all vow to honor the Honor Code when we first get here, and those who choose not to live up to this promise will do so whether the front desk has hijacked their ID or not," she said. "I like that they make non-CNU people sign in if they are here in the dorms, but everything else is crazy. Why on Earth do we need to scan our hands at the Freeman Center? What are they afraid I am going to come in there and slip that 100-pound ab machine into my bag and run off?"

University Police and those who are responsible for ID checks and hand scans seem to be achieving the desired safety results.

In a comparison with the University of Virginia's main campus, George Mason University and Old Dominion University, CNU had the lowest on-campus crime rate for the vast majority of the crimes, according to the Office of Post Secondary Education. All statistics were for the years 2000, 2001 and 2002.

Whether it is the students, the Police Aides or the University Police themselves, security is an issue that affects every person on campus.

"I think the security around campus suits me right to a T," said freshman Tim Lee.

Debate over holiday

KING, from page 1

because one of CNU's goals is to increase diversity, she hopes the administration would consider this schedule adjustment in the future.

Not everyone at CNU, however, is in agreement with the need to take this day off.

In response to the e-mail sent by Williams, fellow CNU student Michael Orazi wrote, "You do not need to have the a day off from work or school in order to celebrate the life of Martin Luther King, Jr. or anyone else for that matter."

Orazi listed a number of holidays that the school also stays open including, Labor Day and Columbus Day, and offered students the option to transfer in order to receive the day off.

As the debate continued via e-mail, professor of history, Dr. Anthony Santoro, wrote in response to Orazi: "Some things are better unsaid and left alone. Never fear, however. For most people, wisdom comes with age."

Santoro said, "just because you differ with them does not mean you invite them to go to another school," in regards to Orazi's statement.

Williams said about the response to the e-mail, "I didn't think it would be as controversial," but also said it was good because it has promoted discussion and free speech.

For many of the students and faculty, their reasons for wanting the day off are simple.

"We should have the day off because without Dr. King, African Americans wouldn't have the same opportunities if he hadn't fought against segregation," said junior Renee Moore.

It was also expressed by several students that the day should also be spent doing things to help the community and as a form of remembrance.

"His accomplishments were a turning point in history," said senior Dana Spontak, who also believes students should make it a point to reflect on the importance of the day.

Some students and faculty members also believe that taking the day off is not the only means to celebrate the accomplishments of King.

Senior Brian Adam Moore thinks keeping the school open represents

a great deal more than if it were shut down. "Attending class is the best way to celebrate diversity first hand. I think that is what Dr. King would have wanted," he said.

Associate Dean of Students Donna Eddleman feels it is up to individuals to do all they can to act in his honor.

"It's about how you choose to remember Dr. King, not necessarily about having the day off," she said.

Although some students thought classes should be cancelled in honor of the holiday, the additional day off would

present logistical problems.

Provost Richard Summerville said, "There are many national holidays for which we do not close." He said, "Closing on this particular Monday would have extended the academic calendar," which is based upon a 14-

week system. According to Director of Development Margaret Yancey students would have had to attend class the Monday of Spring Break in order to make up the day.

Although the campus remained open for the holiday, signs were adorned in

various locales around the campus while the Music Department presented a concert, "Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Celebration," that evening in Gaines Theater and celebrated his life by featuring the music of African American composers.

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World and Nation



Iraqi men are treated at the Al Yarmuk Hospital for injuries after a large car bomb exploded outside the front gate of the American-led coalition's headquarters in Baghdad, Iraq, on Jan. 18. A suicide bomber struck Sunday morning, killing at least 18 Iraqis and injuring more than 60.

Attack kills at least 18 Iraqis in Baghdad; United States officers fear shift in tactics

By Tom Lasseter
Knight-Ridder Newspapers

Jan. 18—A suicide bomber in a white Toyota pickup truck packed with some 1,000 pounds of plastic explosives struck Sunday morning outside the gates of the American-led coalition's headquarters in Iraq, killing at least 18 Iraqis and injuring more than 60.

There were reports of two "dead" American contractors, but their identities hadn't been confirmed.

"Many of the bodies, as you might imagine, because of the nature of the crime, we haven't been able to fully determine their nationality or their names," said Brig. Gen. Mark Kimmitt, the top American military spokesman in Iraq. Another Army officer said that three soldiers were also hurt, but two of them returned to duty shortly after.

While American officials said their investigation was just starting, and that no one had claimed responsibility, military officers have said recently that they take suicide bombings as the hallmark of terrorist fighters from outside Iraq. Blasts such as the

one on Sunday could point to an insurgency that is not only hardening its tactics, but also shifting from one support base to another.

As U.S. forces root out more and more of Saddam Hussein's loyalists, the focus may well shift to those outside fighters, Lt. Gen. Ricardo S. Sanchez said last week.

"There is, clearly, a linkage to fundamentalists and foreign fighters that are coming into the country," said Sanchez, the top military commander in Iraq. And over time, he said, the fundamentalists could become the bigger threat.

The explosion on Sunday, a workday in Iraq, came at 8 a.m., as the mist was rising from the Tigris River and children made their way to school.

Most of those hit by the blast, which left a crater about 6 feet deep and 10 feet wide, were laborers on their way to work at the Republican Palace.

The suicide bomber detonated the explosives while sitting in line with other vehicles waiting their turn just outside a palace entrance, dubbed by U.S. soldiers as "Assassin's Gate."

If not for the tall concrete

walls outside of the compound, a common feature for most government buildings and hotels catering to westerners in Baghdad these days, the casualty rate could have been much higher.

Fifteen other vehicles, including two buses, were damaged or destroyed. The only thing left of the pickup truck was its engine, thrown some 50 feet in the air.

There were dead and wounded Iraqis flung to every direction, and flames shooting toward the sky.

"There were women and children trapped in their cars," said Iraqi Police First Lt. Mohammad Hussein. "We saw so many bodies in the street."

In a scene that has become all too familiar in post-war Iraq, the nearby Yarmuk Hospital took in dozens of the wounded, filling its beds with men whose faces were dazed with fear and pain.

Fathal Ali, a 29-year-old construction worker who was walking across the street when the bomb went off, was hit in the head with three pieces of shrapnel. His brother, Hassan, scooped him off the ground and carried him to a car.

Retelling the story, Has-

san Ali covered his face and sobbed. When he had stopped crying, he looked down at his younger brother, whose head was bandaged and whose shirt and pillow were stained with blood. "The Earth shook, all the world seemed to shake," he said. "You cannot call the men who did this Muslims. They are savages."

Across the room, 20-year-old Kussai Dawad's head and face were covered with bandages. A nurse explained that he'd taken shrapnel to the head, chest, stomach and legs. Dawad's brown eyes stared at the ceiling, and he spoke in a whisper.

"Maybe it was a message not to work for the American," he said. "I will never again work for them."

The timing of the explosion was notable, coming the day before Paul Bremer, the top U.S. official in Iraq, was set to meet with United Nations officials to discuss an upcoming national caucus process.

The caucuses will lead to a national assembly on July 1, and the dissolution of Bremer's Coalition Provisional Authority and the interim Iraqi governing council.

Bush meets angry opposition as he plants wreath on King's grave

By William Douglas
Knight-Ridder Newspapers

Jan. 18—President Bush placed a wreath at Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s grave Thursday to a chorus of boos from hundreds of mostly black demonstrators, who felt that Bush's policies run counter to the slain civil rights leader's beliefs.

Bush's visit to King's gravesite on what would have been his 75th birthday also bothered some black lawmakers, who characterized the appearance as a hollow gesture from a president who, in their view, has done little for the African-American community.

The president won only 8 percent of the black vote in 2000, and Thursday's appearance suggested it will be difficult for him to do better in 2004 with African-Americans or their liberal allies.

"It's hypocrisy for George Bush to come down here, raise money and do a drive-by at the gravesite," said Democratic state Rep. Tyrone Brooks, the president of the Georgia Association of Black Elected Officials. "It's not about Dr. King's legacy, it's about getting re-elected."

Bush was received more warmly Thursday morning at New Orleans' Union Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church, where parishioners applauded his entry and departure and laughed at his jokes.

In both cities, Bush attended fund-raisers. They yielded about \$2.3 million for his re-election campaign.

White House officials said the thrust of the president's two-state trip was to pay homage to King and to spread the word about his so-called faith-based initiative, which encourages religious organizations to seek federal money for social service programs.

Brooks and several black clergy members in Atlanta accused the White House of barging in on the King ceremonies in Atlanta, inviting themselves and demanding changes in the schedule to accommodate Bush and the Secret Service's security concerns.

White House Press Secretary Scott McClellan didn't address whether Bush had been invited.

He said: "We are pleased that Mrs. King and the King center welcome the president's visit today as he pays tribute to Dr. King's legacy and his vision and his lifetime of service."

The president's visit to King's resting place lasted less than 15 minutes. Escorted by Coretta Scott King and Christine Farris, King's sister, Bush placed a wreath before King's tomb, bowed his head in prayer briefly and departed.

Hundreds of protesters, black and white, stood across the street from the King Center for Nonviolent Social Change, bearing signs that read, "Impeach The Liar," "Bush Zionist Puppet" and "Money For Jobs And Housing, Not War."

Five Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority buses parked in front of them blocked their view of the president. Police in riot gear stood atop the vehicles.

If the protesters couldn't see, they were certainly heard. Before Bush arrived, they chanted "Bush Go Home" and "Peace, Not War."

They booed loudly as the president placed the wreath at King's tomb.

Administration officials said Bush had been sensitive to the needs of blacks. They cited his "No Child Left Behind" initiative, which is intended to make schools more accountable for student performance, and his faith-based initiative.

"Today would have been (King's) 75th birthday. It's important for our country to honor his life and what he stood for," the president said in New Orleans. "Dr. King understood that faith is a power greater than all others. That's what he knew."

Sheriee Bowman, a spokeswoman for the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, suggested that Bush "take a look at Dr. King's message and create policies that mirror that message."

She noted that it was on King's birthday last year that the White House announced its opposition to the University of Michigan's affirmative action policy.

"We respect the right for him (Bush) to pay tribute to Dr. King," Bowman said. "But we question the integrity of the timing."

Thousands of Iraqis march in Baghdad to demand direct elections

By Tom Lasseter
Knight-Ridder Newspapers

Jan. 19—Tens of thousands of men, angry and yelling, marched through the streets of Baghdad on Monday, calling for direct elections in a show of force by the nation's Shiite Muslim leadership.

The mostly peaceful demonstration took place hours before Ambassador L. Paul Bremer, the top U.S. envoy to Iraq, met with officials at the United Nations to discuss U.N. involvement in the transition to Iraqi self-rule.

The demonstration sent a clear message that if Bremer carries through with an American plan to select an Iraqi government through caucuses, instead of direct elections, he would face widespread civil disobedience, if not outright violence.

"If they do not give us our rights, we will take them," said Sheikh Haider Allawi, a member of the holy city of Najaf's Hawza, a collection of Shiite Muslim scholars who make up the sect's highest authority and whose decisions are taken

as law by Shiite followers. Allawi was observing the demonstration with other religious leaders from a bridge overlooking the 3-mile-long procession.

Shiites fear that the caucuses would lead to a rigged outcome that would deny

repeatedly thrown a wrench in U.S. plans to hand power to the Iraqis.

Sistani has refused to meet directly with U.S. officials, and it's unclear whether, or under what circumstances, Sistani might agree to a modified version

of the U.S. plan that fell short of direct elections.

Bremer has insisted that direct elections aren't possible yet because of a lack of security, a reliable census and an election law. The current plan—announced in November partly in response to Sistani's objections to an earlier plan—is to have a caucus system leading to a national assembly, with Bremer's Coalition Provisional Authority to be dissolved on June 30.

While Monday's demonstration had a plethora of chants—"No, no to appointed government. Yes, yes to elections"—there was one that drove the crowd wild, shouting and pumping fists in the air: "Just give the order Sayyid Ali! We will start the revolution of 1920 again!"

The 1920 date marked a four-month uprising by the country's Sunni and Shiite Muslims against the former British occupation, which resulted in some 10,000 deaths.

The "Sayyid Ali" referred to Sistani. Every person in the crowd interviewed Monday echoed the words of Hamis Mohassen, a Baghdad house painter.

"I am awaiting the word



An angry protester throws a large rock through the window of an Al Jazeera network satellite truck as the truck tries to escape the angry mob Jan. 19.

them control of the government. Shiites make up 60 percent of Iraq's population of 25 million.

"First, we will demonstrate," said Sheikh Hassan Zaki, a cleric from Najaf. "After that, we will strike, not going to our jobs. After that ... the doors of paradise

will open for the martyrs." Asked what he meant, Zaki said, "We will make a revolution against the Americans, as our fathers did against the British in 1920."

Zaki is a student of Shiite leader Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Hussein al-Sistani, whose calls for direct elections have



Tens of thousands of Shiite Muslims march through the streets carrying portraits of Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Hussein al-Sistani and other Shiite clerics Jan. 19 in Baghdad, Iraq. The protesters are demanding a fair election process for Iraq.

of Sistani," he said.

Saleh Mahdi, an iron-smith: "If there are no elections? Our religious leaders will have the final word."

As Mahdi was speaking, a man interjected, "Each one of us is a bomb, so the United

States should be careful."

He was hushed by cries of "Quiet! It is not yet time. Sistani will speak for us."

Iraq's Shiite population was brutally suppressed under the former dictator Saddam Hussein's regime.

Opinions

Where We Stand

King's message calls us to education, not vacation

As we all know, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was a national leader who lost his life in the name of the Civil Rights Movement. We all know about his 1963 "I Have a Dream" speech, which was delivered at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C. to more than 200,000 civil-rights activists. And we all know about his practices of non-violent protests for the goal of civil equality.

But those aren't the only things for which he was known. In fact, King spoke directly into the lives of young men and women who were under the realm of education as well. His message still applies today, and it may apply to some of us.

The Seattle Times released King's article that was published in the Morehouse College student newspaper, the Maroon Tiger, in 1948. He wrote:

"A great majority of the so-called educated people do not think logically and scientifically. Even the press, the classroom, the platform and the pulpit in many instances do not give us objective and unbiased truths. To save man from the morass of propaganda, in my opinion, is one of the chief aims of education. Education must enable one to sift and weigh evidence, to discern the true from the false, the real from the unreal and the facts from the fiction."

As we can see, King valued education greatly. And while honoring his life in some capacity is important, it would more than likely be a disservice to his very message for us to take a day off from school. In fact, we should embrace his holiday as a time to further our knowledge about the history of his life and message. For example, Douglas Gordon, dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, encouraged students and faculty to pay some attention to King's written work. That's good advice. King's "Letter from a Birmingham Jail" speaks on the differences between just laws and unjust laws and describes how the Birmingham police treated those who protested for the desegregation of department-store facilities.

That's not all he talks about; check it out sometime. A man who won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964 was slain four years later; that demands our attention.

The Democrats: A Hobson's Choice

By Stefan Veldhuis
Contributing Writer

In the late 16th and early 17th centuries, a man by the name of Thomas Hobson worked as a licensed carrier of passengers, letters and parcels between Cambridge and London, England. He kept horses for this purpose and rented them to university students at varying times. Of course, the students always desired their favorite mounts, and consequently several of Hobson's horses became overworked.

To correct the situation, Hobson began a strict rotation system, giving each customer the choice of taking the horse nearest the stable door, or nothing at all. This rule became known as the "Hobson's choice" and soon thereafter people were using the term to describe situations in which there was really no choice at all.

Unfortunately, yet undeniably, the Hobson's choice is what voters are presented with in the decision between the Democratic candidates who are attempting to win office by dethroning President Bush. The decision is an apparently free choice that actually lends voters no real option at all in the upcoming caucuses.

The democratic candidates are treading in the waters of homogeneity, each attempting desperately to cause a wave of ostensible legitimacy to crest as election time draws near.

Bush has been the object of contumely by all the democratic candidates, yet they offer no worthwhile alternatives.

From the petulant

words and behavior of Howard Dean to the endless palaver of Al Sharpton, the democrats seem to do little but cavil and create scission among themselves.

General Clark, a political neophyte, recently expressed his idea to repeal Bush's tax cut, expecting even more money from American taxpayers. Clark views the tax cuts as Republican pork barreling, instead of a deserved break from the high taxes of the previous Democratic administration.

From the petulant words and behavior of Howard Dean to the endless palaver of Al Sharpton, the Democrats seem to do little but cavil and create scission among themselves.

him aplomb in his campaigning, his speeches remain devoid of content and vision as he continues to hide behind the integument of his rhetoric.

The Reverend Al Sharpton, possibly the most disputatious candidate, has been far less than consummate in his discourse and dialogue thus far.

When asked by Chris Matthews of the political television show "Hardball" how he, as a reverend, could support abortion, Sharpton quickly changed the subject. Sharpton circumvented the question by stating that those on the left wing have a greater proclivity to give to charities than those on the right. Al Sharpton's evasion of the query and quandary regarding this issue is simply another roorback in a democratic race where negative

Ironically, Democrats have been responsible for the biggest boondoggles in the nation's history, consistently raising taxes and having little to show for it.

Clark, who spoke highly of the Bush administration less than two years ago in a speech that was recently televised, is more perfidious than his patriotic palaver would indicate.

Former Presidential candidate Al Gore, Lieberman's former running mate, had so little faith in his abilities

tactics have evolved into the optimal means of success.

Former governor Howard Dean has offended many military men and women with his brusque comments regarding the capture of Saddam Hussein. When asked for his take on the capture of Saddam, Dean said he felt the country was no safer without his presence as head of Iraq. Dean regards himself as the political bastion of the Democratic Party, yet his propensity to aggress leaves many turned off by his egregious platform.

Senator John F. Kerry has presented little in the way of political innovation or creativity. In an attempt to spice up his campaign he recently made this comment regarding North Carolina Senator John Edwards, "When I came home from Vietnam in 1969, I don't know if John Edwards was out of diapers then yet or not, I'm totally not sure. I don't know." This type of negative language has put doubts in the minds of many, especially after he unveiled his "Real Deal" slogan. If his real deal slogan is meant to imply a pessimistic man whose best qualities include the verbal destruction of other candidates, then he has correctly labeled himself.

It seems that the democrats have succeeded in displaying a multitude of vagaries while holding true to their nescience on all political fronts. Even the most Panglossian individuals are not overly optimistic that whoever emerges from the political melee will in fact have a legitimate chance to become the next president.

Sadly, voters are left with a Hobson's choice, a decision that provides no viable alternative to the monotony and homogeneity that the current candidates present.

The Captain's Log

2003 - 2004 Staff

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For a letter to be considered for publication in the next issue, we must receive it by noon of the Wednesday prior to publication. Corrections/Clarifications to The Captain's Log will be published in the issue following the error.

The Remorseful Daughter

By Josh Dermer

Contributing Writer

Many people have never heard the name Norma McCorvey, but most of us are familiar with the 1973 Roe vs. Wade case where the Supreme Court effectively legalized abortion.

Ms. McCorvey was the lead plaintiff and was known as "Jane Roe" during the case. There is no doubt that the debate over abortion is one of the most polarizing issues facing America today. Both sides have spent millions of dollars in lobbying efforts, political campaigns and educational initiatives. Those who support legalized abortion make the impression that their cause is akin to a civil rights movement for women.

Yet 30 years later, Norma McCorvey went back to federal court to request that the famous decision be reconsidered and overturned. On June 17, 2003 McCorvey joined dozens of other women at a Dallas press conference, calling on the Supreme Court to do just that. All of the women at the conference had undergone abortions, and all of them held up signs which read: "I regret my abortion."

If legalized abortion is such a "civil right," as the pro-abortion lobby claims, then why did the lead plaintiff in their most victorious case—now a prominent pro-life activist—join other women in calling for a judicial reconsideration? Allan Parker, head of the Texas Justice Foundation, makes note of the fact that Roe vs. Wade may be the first case where the plaintiff has asked for the ruling to be overturned.

Perhaps McCorvey is motivated not only by the death of unborn children, but also by the emotional wounds inflicted on the women who had abortions. Of post-abortive women, 50

percent experience nightmares, thoughts of suicide and an inability to develop healthy relationships. Sadly, many of these women turn to alcohol and drugs.

The link between abortion and breast cancer is another by-product of abortion which the pro-abortion lobby wants to hide. A total of 37 studies have been conducted worldwide since

Those who support legalized abortion make the impression that their cause is akin to a civil rights movement for women.

1957 and, of those, 28 found a link. More specifically, a study conducted by Howard University found that black women who have abortions have a 50 percent increased risk of getting breast cancer by age 40 and the risk increases by 370 percent after age 50. Such revelations should cause Americans to question previously held notions about what is best for women.

So why aren't American women being warned about the link between abortion and breast cancer? Abortion is a multi-billion dollar industry. When women choose life, organizations like Planned Parenthood lose money. To make matters worse, our federal government continues to subsidize the abortion industry every year. In the 2002-03 fiscal year, Planned Parenthood alone received over \$254 million in taxpayer dollars courtesy of the Republican-

controlled Congress along with approval from President Bush.

Looking at the big picture, it's obvious that there's more to the abortion issue than meets the eye. And if this issue is going to be compared to a civil rights movement, then Roe vs. Wade better resembles the Dred Scott decision. Like slavery of yesteryear, abortion is a legalized institution which creates financial profits from human suffering. One can also make the case that legalized abortion is unconstitutional because the 5th Amendment stipulates that the right to life shall not be deprived without due process of law. Justice Blackmun and his colleagues chose to ignore that clause three decades ago.

Another falsity produced by the pro-abortion lobby is that the vast majority of women are "pro-choice." The truth is that women are split down the middle on the issue. On July 2, 2003, The Washington Times reported that a poll confirmed that 51 percent of women consider themselves pro-life. The poll was conducted by Princeton Survey Research Associates, an independent research company specializing in social and policy work. Clearly, this recent information shows that women are certainly capable of thinking for themselves and that left-wing groups like the National Organization for Women don't speak for the majority of women.

Norma McCorvey represents a growing number of women in our country, many of whom have had abortions, who are leading the fight against the culture of death. They are America's remorseful daughters.

Josh Dermer is the chairman of the CNU Young Constitutionalists.

Correction

In the article titled, "Task Force attempts to update core curriculum" [Dec. 10, 2003], it was stated that students would be required to take three credits of history instead of six if the General Education Curriculum is replaced with the proposal from the Task Force on Curriculum and Academic Life. The task force's proposal actually has no history course requirements, according to Dr. Anthony Santoro, distinguished professor of history. The History Department submitted more than one proposal that argued for history requirements of varying semester hour numbers to be included in the General Education Curriculum, Santoro said. Each proposal was rejected, he said.

Editor's note: The Captain's Log will continue to cover this issue as the task force continues to push for further approval.

Arts and Entertainment

Winter break consists not only of packing and buying books

By Taryn Cornelius
Staff Columnist

After spending less time at home than I ever have for Winter Break (no really, thanks a lot Isabel), it is time apparently to start another semester at CNU-land. For the most part things are starting off normal: moving back in more stuff than I could have ever needed at home, dropping hundreds of dollars on books and discovering that Santa's elves didn't clean my apartment for me.

Of course, not everything could start out the same this semester. Parking, for instance, seems pretty sparse. No wait... that would be pretty normal, wouldn't it? But seriously, what is up with the freshmen taking all the good parking? I can't even park on-campus during the day, but with hundreds of freshmen now refusing to park anywhere but the first five rows next to their buildings, I have so much sympathy for commuters.

I mean, I know it is difficult for the freshmen to stumble home on a Friday night, but if we had to do so from the Ferguson lots, they should at least have to park somewhere less convenient than the best places on campus. What better way for them all to cut out the freshman-15 than by walking a quarter mile to their dorms?

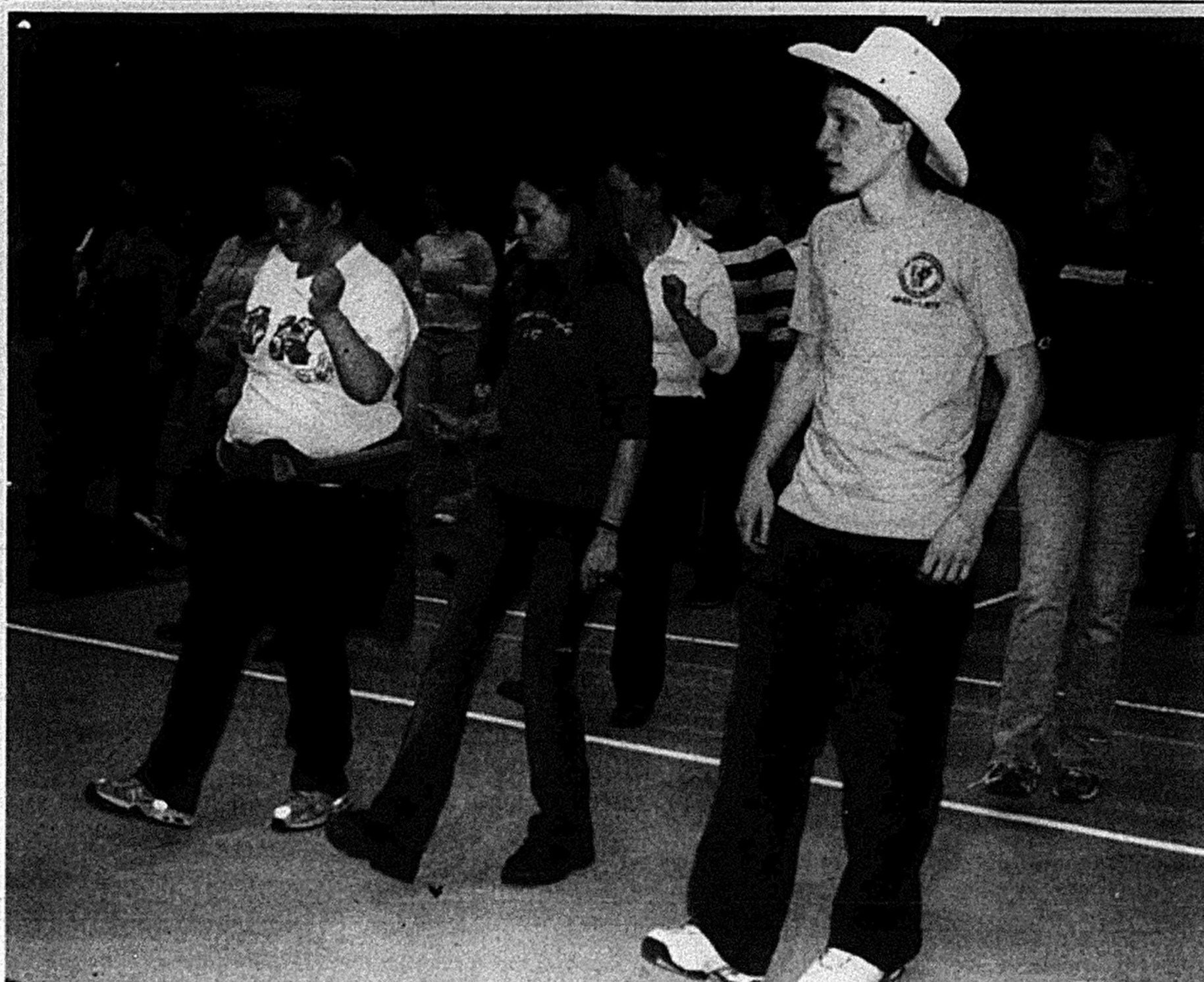
Every Winter Break I seem to end up with some random trinket. This year's random trinket was one of those tiny glow-sticks you can hook on your key chain. First off, why would you put a glow-stick on your key chain? You get to snap it once and after that it is absolutely useless. It's like one of those singing fish-- you push the button maybe the first week, and then never touch it again.

Anyway, back to the glow-stick. So every year my family attends a midnight, candle-lit, ceremony on Christmas Eve. Per usual, we went to the same church we've attended the services at for a few years. Opening up the bulletin, I see the word glow-stick where it should say candle. You're kidding me right? "In appreciation of Christ's birth on this night thousands of years ago, will you please join with me in snapping your glow-sticks."

With the first week of the semester behind us, some of the effects are still reeling. I had a professor tell me I WOULD cry in her class. Now I'm left with the dilemma of whether to walk in this week and bawl my eyes out to get it over with early, or if I should follow the trend and just wait till the last week of the semester.

Another professor told me I wouldn't have to attend class for a month. I spend three and a half years getting my grades dropped for skipping class, and now suddenly I'm given permission to do so? Oh, the life of a senior...

Good luck to everyone surviving the semester, the flu and the parking situation. If only we could get rid of freshmen cars the same way we get rid of germs-- in true college spirit, with alcohol and sleep.



Sophomores Carly Kretzer, Tiffany Slaughter and Jason Funkhauser practice their line-dancing skills at last Saturday's "CNU Line Dancing" sponsored by the Office of Residence Life.

Students line up to line dance

While many expected a low turnout, line dancing was a successful event

By Michael Oden
Contributing Writer

Nearly 200 students got down to the honky-tonk beat last Saturday as the Office of Residence Life hosted "CNU Line Dancing" in the Freeman Center from 7-9 p.m.

The Office of Residence Life went all-out to make sure that this event was a hit, with DJ Chris Rice, Instructor Terry Principe, and \$250 in prizes all being featured. To most of the students present, the dance did not disappoint. Everyone seemed to be having a blast, as country music blared over the speakers and the students danced to the best of their abilities. While there were few "experts" in the crowd, everyone ended up dancing

quite skillfully by the end of the evening, thanks in large part to Principe.

Principe, a member of CNU's Educational Foundation, was co-founder of The Midwest Connection before joining the staff. She has a great deal of line dancing experience, having taught it all over the country. Principe is also an accomplished line dancing choreographer, having choreographed several line dances that have been taught nationwide.

Many people wouldn't expect to have such a large turnout at this event. It wasn't a surprise, however, to Assistant Director of Residence Life, Ryan Brown.

"Not many people will admit to having an interest in country music, but millions of CDs are sold every year," he said. "Someone must listen to it."

Many of the dancers were dressed in authentic cowboy garb, complete with hat and boots. Decked-out in Dalias-style duds or not, it was clear that the country spirit lives on campus. The successful turnout was a testament to that.

But why line dancing?

Brown wanted something that was somewhat "off the beaten path," but was also guaranteed to be enjoyable. "We wanted something that was totally interactive," said Brown, and that, of course, meant prizes.

There were many incentives in place to make sure CNU students chose to spend Saturday night in the Freeman Center, not the least of which was the guarantee of \$250 in prizes. Those who showed up were given free raffle tickets, and prizes were drawn throughout the night. The prizes ranged from the obligatory cowboy hats to the less-conventional lava lamp. The prizes, though, were only a small part of the allure.

Many came to the event out of curiosity, and others were more or less "forced" to come. "I was kind of dragged here, but I ended up having a really good time," sophomore Desirae Diehel said.

Sophomore Kearsten Ruud summed up her experience in two "words": "Yee haw!"

Those who skipped trendier activities to attend

this one-of-a-kind event were rewarded with a totally enjoyable experience. "CNU Line Dancing" was everything it professed to be, and more. The snack bar was a pleasant surprise, especially for those with hearty appetites and yearning for not-so-healthy foods. Along with the inevitable tortilla chips and salsa were the always-desirable pork rinds. These snacks provided a country flare that fit in quite well with the rest of the dance. In fact, the only improvement I could suggest would have been a mechanical bull in the center of the gym. Other than that, it was perfect.

"CNU Line Dancing," the first of five campus-wide events sponsored by the Office of Residence Life this semester, was a big hit. It was also an interesting way to start off the semester. Due to the success of this event, it wouldn't be surprising to see more country-inspired events in the future. Square dancing, perhaps? How about a rodeo? Oh, and don't forget my previous idea of the mechanical bull. Are you listening, Jerry Roeder?

Plaza Azteca offers nearby taste of Mexico

By Channele Layman
Asst. Layout and Design Manager

All of a sudden, the room was dark. The previously noisy restaurant was reduced to hushed conversations. Within a few moments, emergency lights came on and families and groups continued their meals.

According to the staff, Plaza Azteca usually has its lights on all the time, my recent visit was just an anomaly. Despite the unusual circumstances, the staff at Plaza Azteca maintained its friendly, usual service.

For most visits, Plaza Azteca offers a warm, high-energy atmosphere with all the expected Mexican features.

Though the effect is sometimes crowding, customers are closely seated in order to add to the environment. The atmosphere also entails friendly, fast service. Plaza Azteca employs a Spanish-speaking staff which authenticates the Mexican dining experience. Though seemingly rushed, waiters and waitresses seat customers fairly quickly, unless you arrive at peak dinner hours. Your food also arrives quickly and steaming hot (unless, of course, the power goes out.)

In addition to fresh and warm, the food is served exactly as described. For example, when you order Sizzling Fajitas, undoubtedly you will receive your fajitas still in the frying pan, sizzling away. In the few moments before your food arrives, try the freshly baked complimentary tortilla chips and salsa. Choices on the menu include all types of Mexican dishes: sides, salads, chicken, beef, enchiladas, burritos, taquitos, fajitas and more. Serving sizes seem to be just enough, and at times, a little extra. When added to the tortilla chips, you will certainly be satisfied.

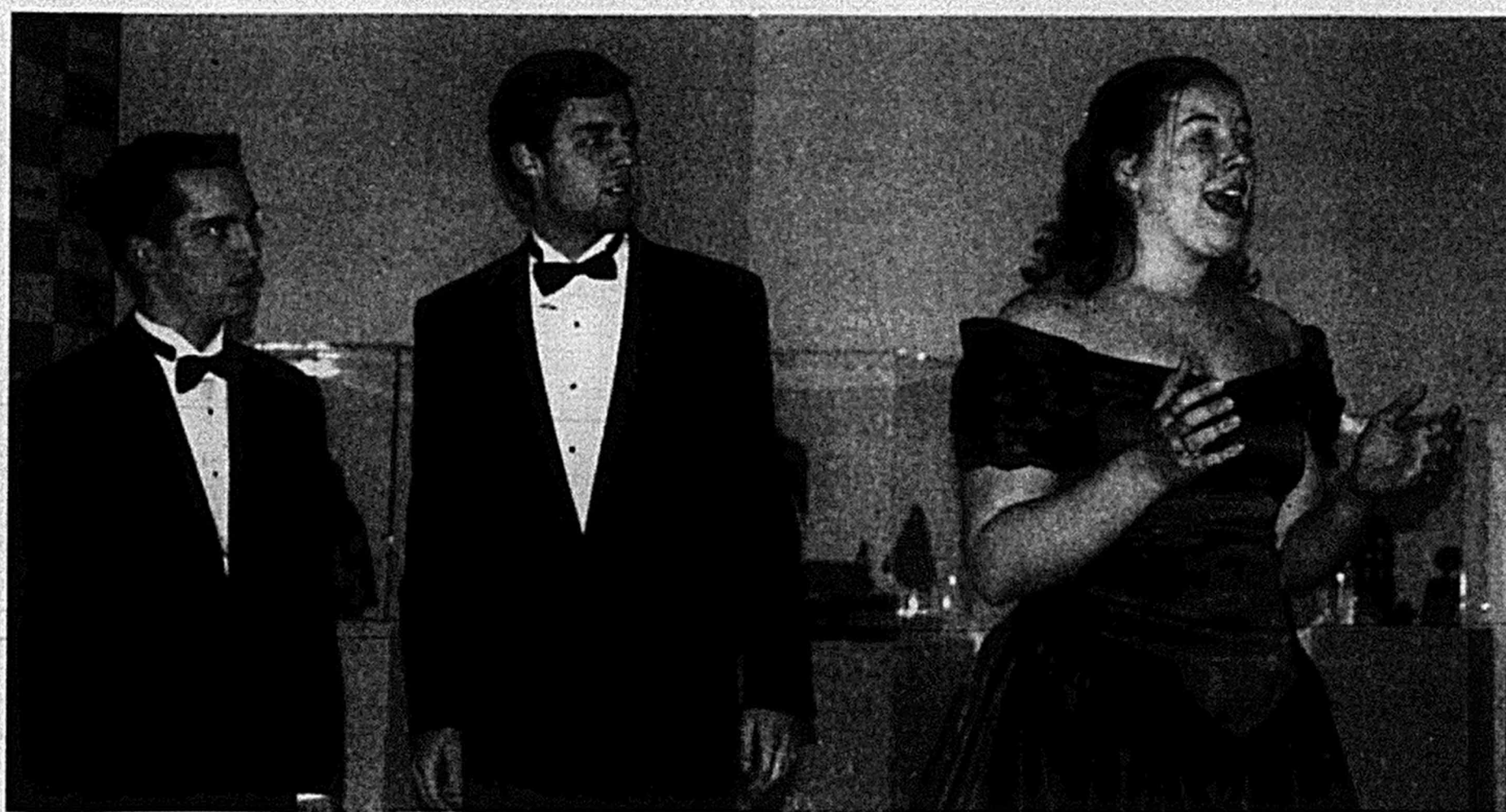
Though not as cheap as its fast-food counterpart, Taco Bell, Plaza Azteca charges a reasonable price. Ranging from \$5-\$15, nearly everyone can find something to fit their price range and feed their appetite.

On every account, Plaza Azteca is the perfect casual restaurant. Prompt, courteous service distinguishes it from fast food restaurants, and a warm, personable environment gives it a relaxing atmosphere. For small or large groups, space can always be found, and the restaurant is enjoyable for all occasions.

Even when power outages occur, Plaza Azteca maintains its comfortable feel, (though electricity is always preferable.)

Particularly attractive for CNU students is Plaza Azteca's proximity to campus. Located at 12428 Warwick Boulevard, Newport News, 23606, the restaurant is just past the Suntrust Building and is easily accessible. The restaurant can be reached at 599-6726. They are open from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Thursday, from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Friday, 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday, and 12 to 9:30 p.m. Sunday.

On the finger-lickin' good scale, Plaza Azteca receives 4 out of 5 fingers.



Freshman Corinne White and juniors Mike Raymond and Anthony Colosino performed at last Thursday's Opera CNU presentation at the Peninsula Fine Arts Center.

Opera CNU performs at PFAC

Opera CNU operates without class time, performs well

By Jon Allegretto
Captain's Log Intern

Often when we think of opera, we imagine the most sophisticated of setups and productions complete with elaborate costumes and scenery.

The Opera CNU performance at the Peninsula Fine Arts Center on Museum Drive next to the Mariners'

Museum on Thursday was, however, a great departure from the ordinary. The cast performed various selections in an intimate, casual environment without compromising performance quality and allowed those present a unique change in atmosphere.

The production took place in the middle of an exhibit on the empire of Mali, among an interesting backdrop of various artifacts while the room provided nice acoustics

See OPERA, page 8



Kevin Tully plays at local clubs and restaurants and will eventually offer an original album.

Taryn Cornelius/The Captain's Log

Kevin Tully may be next big thing

Local performer builds fan base with covers, aspires to record his own original songs

By Taryn Cornelius
Staff Columnist

Imagine being personally serenaded by John Mayer, Dave Matthews or Jason Mraz while eating dinner or drinking coffee. That is sort of the experience when local musician Kevin Tully performs.

Playing gigs at places like Marker20 in downtown Hampton, the Harbor Espresso Cafe, or Plaza Azteca on Jefferson Ave., his shows are casual but impactful and, to the delight of the broke college student, free or available for some cheap, but delicious food.

Born and raised in Hampton Roads, Tully grew up living with his father. His mother however, has been the most responsible for his music career.

"We've always been re-

ally close," Tully said of his mom, "she's always supported me."

The 26 year-old Tully has been involved in music for over ten years. At 16, he picked up the guitar and traded in his country music for some music his mom introduced him to: the likes of Pearl Jam, Stone Temple Pilots and Dave Matthews Band.

After a show in Manassas, Va. in 1997, Tully was able to meet Dave Matthews, who taught him how to play one of his hits, "Crash."

"It was an out-of-body experience almost," Tully said.

After graduating high school, Tully went on to pursue a job as a police officer, but quickly put that career aside when his music career emerged. He plans eventually to return to the police but, for the meantime, is enjoying his music while it pays.

Tully, who still plays several DMB covers, is most inspired by new artist Mraz. Throughout his show, Tully mentioned an appreciation for Mraz, stating his opinion on the singer's success.

Along with DMB, Tully also plays covers from John Mayer, Bare Naked Ladies, Bob Dylan, Cindy Lauper

and countless other musicians. "I really try to do everything the way it's supposed to be done," said Tully about his style when covering a song. "A lot of acoustic musicians don't like to make that effort." However, his voice and sporadic jam-moments add his personality into every song he plays.

He wrote his first song while still in high school, admitting that it was actually Christian-based lyrics for which his pastor wrote the music.

Although Christianity is still an important belief in his life, he has changed his lyrical content from religion to love.

Tully admitted that his soon-to-be debut single "Too Soon" is actually about his girlfriend, who he met while performing at a Beach Street gig on the Oceanfront.

Tully has spent the last several weeks working on new material, even though he wrote "Too Soon" in about an hour. "Sometimes I just get a movin'," Tully said. Tully typically plays 3-5 gigs a week, leaving little time to write new lyrics. Over the summer, he played almost 100 solo shows. "Writing gets put off to the side most of the time. You know, you've got

to pay the bills."

Although he is currently a completely independent musician, Tully is working on producing a sampler album of 6-7 original songs, which he hopes to sell at shows.

Although he already has some outside dates lined-up, Tully does not plan on going on a larger tour until he writes more original songs.

"I don't want to be known for covers only," said Tully, who hopes to be able to open for up and coming artists like Mraz or Howie Day sometime in the future.

As for being on a label, Tully doesn't have plans to seek one out. He is content with remaining as an independent musician but said, "If it all works out, then that is great."

If you're interested in checking out one of Kevin Tully's shows, he plays throughout Hampton Roads every week. You can catch him most Saturday's at Plaza Azteca, and once a month at the Harbor Espresso Cafe. More shows and also some MP3s of his covers can be found at www.kevintully.com, along with contact info for anyone looking to book a show.

2 Skinnee J's rocks reunion show

The NorVa presents a New Year's show for fans of recently split band

By Kris King
Contributing Writer

Ten seconds were left until midnight. The room went dark. The crowd roared with anticipation. At dawn of the New Year the 2 Skinnee J's flooded the stage.

The 2 Skinnee J's are a group coming from a genre of their own. Their mixture of hip-hop, rock and pop is a formula gives them the unique sound that makes them stand out among other little known groups.

Having been together for over 10 years, the band has released three full-length albums over the past five years.

Despite garnering a large underground fan base, the J's never did break into the mainstream success. The band then decided to call it quits, despite pleas from their fans.

On Aug. 18, 2003, they played their last show in their hometown of New York City.

Fast forward to October when the Norva's Web site suddenly announced a special New Year's Eve reunion show of 2 Skinnee J's.

Word spread like wildfire over the Internet and tickets sold quickly. People traveled from all over the country to catch the J's and at 8 p.m. on Dec. 31, the doors opened to the eager crowd.

The NorVa was a perfect venue for the show. It can accommodate a large crowd and has a solid sound system. The venue is a favorite of the band, which was to the local fans' benefit because the band played there often.

There were two opening acts for the show, a mix CD DJ named DJ Greg Again and the North Carolina based Guta. Both acts were the absolute low point of not only the show, but also my life.

DJ Greg Again mainly

paraded on stage to mask his sloppy style and poor mixing. He played for about 45 minutes, which was followed up by Guta.

Guta is a typical Grateful Dead/Phish/Sublime sound-alike jam band, but with a severe lack of talent. The only members of the crowd that enjoyed their set were the ones bearing the band's insignia on their chest.

Energy began to dwindle as the opening acts finished their sets, but sparks began to fly again as the clock reached midnight.

The J's rushed the stage at midnight and began their electric twenty-six song set. The band rocked the crowd with a solid mix of songs from their three albums. Strobe lights blared, and colored lights flashed as the band played for the first time in four months.

One element missing from the show was the band's keyboardist, Stevie Spice, who couldn't make the show because of his job in California.

He was replaced by long time friend and tech guy Ray, who did a great job filling Stevie's shoes.

After the set the J's came out for a unique three-song encore. The encore stood out from past shows because two of the songs were rarely played in any of their live shows, "Secret Frequency" and "Sugar and Candy."

The addition of these tunes sent the crowd into an uproar of joy. During their closing number the band allowed dozens of audience members onto the stage.

The show ended at around 2 a.m. as the full venue filtered out into the Norfolk streets. Many were calling it the greatest New Year's Eve they've ever had.

2 Skinnee J's have recently posted on their Web site (www.2skinnee.com) that they do plan on playing several more live shows across the country, but have no plans on officially getting back together again.

No solid dates have been set for future shows but it's likely that 2 Skinnee J's will play the NorVa again.

OPERA, from page 7

for the stripped-down presentation.

The cast offered up eight selections that evening, ranging from Mozart to Stephen Sondheim, in an order that not only showed variation, but also fluent transitions, making for a smooth running production. Many of the evening's selections were performed in English, with the exception of a duet from the French opera "Carmen," and accompanied by piano only.

The cast ended the show with Leonard Bernstein's "Make Our Garden Grow," a selection that combined all 12 participants in a grand finale of united voices, producing an inspirational and exhilarating closer.

"Our singers are so awesome... I get chills."

Adam Price, junior

This being their first performance in the Gaines Theater since December, Director of CNU Opera Dr. Scott Root and nearly a dozen students were not without apprehension.

"We only had one 30-40 minute rehearsal before tonight's show," Senior Beth Atkins said just before the students ran through several pieces before the show started at 7 p.m.

But as any serious performer will attest, individual

preparation is the key to success, as the students have shown.

"They [Opera CNU students] have gone above and beyond the call of duty," Scott said. "We've had to make a few adjustments after the recent graduation to fill holes and put together an abridged version of last December's show."

One of these adjustments meant Scott playing the role of son to two of his students, much younger than he, in a selection from Mozart's "A Marriage of Figaro," adding to the comedic nature of the scene.

In addition to the pressures and schedule balancing of the first week of classes, CNU is not offering an opera class this semester, making preparation that much more difficult to organize.

Several of those involved with Opera CNU are also cast members in the Theater CNU production of "Triumph of Love," currently in rehearsal.

From the audience response, many of those present found the performance as amusing as it was entertaining, as the crowd erupted in hysterical laughter frequently throughout the hour-long program.

"Our singers are so awesome," junior Adam Price said as participants and concertgoers mingled around the refreshment tables after the show. "I get chills." Price was just one of the many audience members who had also been present at their last performance, commenting further that this show had been even better than the last.



Emma Thompson plays The Angel in Kushner's film adaptation of his play, "Angels in America."

Kushner's 'labor of love' is epic, real and heartbreaking

Award-winning play is adapted to six-hour movie shown by HBO

By Danny Devlin
Contributing Writer

To say that Tony Kushner's much heralded play "Angels in America" is an epic is a massive understatement. The play, split into two separate and distinct parts ("Millennium Approaches" and "Perestroika") lasts six hours, and deals intimately with AIDS,

homosexuality, Regan era America, Heaven, God, angels and love.

The play's two halves won the Tony Award for Best Play of 1993 and 1994, respectively; "Millennium" was showered with praise including the New York, London and San Francisco Drama Critics' Circle Awards for Best Play, and the 1993 Pulitzer Prize for Drama.

In 2003, it was named one of the top five Tony Award winning plays of all time, in a list that included Arthur Miller's masterpieces "The Crucible" and "Death of a Salesman," Edward Albee's "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?" and Eugene O'Neill's "Long Day's Journey into Night." The

London Royal National Theatre named "Angels" one of the Best 100 Plays of the 20th Century.

"Angels in America" presupposes that God has abandoned Heaven, and His angels want Him back. In 1985 New York, Prior Walter tells Louis Ironson, his lover of four years, that he has contracted AIDS. Louis then leaves Prior.

As Prior falls further into the grip of AIDS, Louis is overwhelmed with guilt for what he has done. Roy Cohn, infected with AIDS and an extremely right-wing high-powered attorney, is pushing his protégé Mormon-Republican Joe Pitt to take a job in the Justice Department in Washington, DC.

Both men are closet homosexuals; Roy because he feels homosexuality will ruin his career, Joe because of shame and an inner-struggle with his strict Mormon upbringing.

Joe's wife, Harper (wanting to escape her sexless marriage to Joe) is a Valium addict who experiences some intense hallucinations. Meanwhile, since leaving Prior, Louis has started dating now out of the closet Joe, but is shocked and slightly disgusted to find out Joe is a Mormon.

Joe's mother Hannah comes to New York from Salt Lake City to try and fix things between Joe and Harper, but ends up coming to the aid of a desperately sick Prior, who has been receiving visitations from an angel.

The Angel makes Prior a prophet, and when Prior

confesses this to his best friend Belize (who is the nurse to the sick and dying Roy Cohn); Belize fears that AIDS is making Prior lose his mind. Prior has a final showdown with the Angelic Council in Heaven as Louis leaves Joe and decides he wants to be back with Prior.

"Angels" is a labor of love. It is Kushner's baby, taking him over five years to write.

Such an important, beloved work would fall apart at the hands of another writer, so it was vital to the success and spirit of the film that Kushner himself adapt the play for film.

The unifying thread here, however, the proverbial Man with the Plan is director Mike Nichols.

Nichols, one of only four people to ever win an Oscar, an Emmy, a Tony and a Grammy, and best known for directing films like "The Graduate" and "The Birdcage," takes Kushner's words and, like any great director, brings them to full, glorious life.

His 1985 New York is startlingly real: the paranoia about AIDS and homosexuality is almost palpable. Nichols gives the script the dedication and focus it deserves, and it is through his direction that the characters confusion (of sexual orientation in some cases, of life in general in others) comes across as almost depressingly honest.

Part two of Devlin's review of "Angels in America" will be run in the Jan. 28, 2003 issue of The Captain's Log

Comics and Crosswords

Mystic Stars

Weekly Horoscope
For The Week Of January 19

By Lasha Seniuk
Knight-Ridder/Tribune News Service

Aries (March 21-April 20). Early this week, watch for colleagues to publicly challenge policy changes or request new assignments. Business ambition is on the rise. Submit applications, apply for loans and clarify workplace roles. By late Wednesday, all will work in your favor. Thursday through Sunday accent family decisions. Key discussions involve canceled events, postponed promises or short-term financial adjustments. Wait for new and creative ideas; improved options will soon arrive.

Taurus (April 21-May 20). Respond quickly to renewed income sources or postponed job offers. Before midweek, many Taurians will expand their business duties, group influence and daily authority. Study the past for valuable options. Bosses, colleagues and financial officials will search out your expertise. Friday through Sunday, romantic memories are strongly felt. Expect yesterday's hopes, dreams and attractions to demand resolution. Remain philosophic.

Gemini (May 21-June 21). Home and workplace obligations will be in conflict. Late Tuesday, loved ones may need more attention than usual. Ask for added patience. At present, sensitivity is needed. After midweek, minor digestive ailments may be bothersome. Attend quickly to allergies, disrupted sleep patterns or intestinal irritations. Some Geminis will need to adopt a more creative approach to health, fitness or vitality. Daily routines are vital. Stay alert to subtle fluctuations of energy.

Cancer (June 22-July 22). Dreams or sudden flashes of wisdom may compel many Cancerians to challenge business officials or rapidly expand their workplace influence. Areas strongly affected are complex power struggles, unusual behavior or ethical standards. Stay strong and expect rare political complications by midweek. After Friday, a long-term friend may announce unusual travel or educational plans. Ask probing questions. Friends and close colleagues need your guidance.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22). Friends and colleagues will explore new concepts. After a brief phase of stagnation, rekindled ambition will bring fast results. Watch for loved ones to also make peace with social restlessness or lost hope. Sudden or unusual requests may be ongoing themes. Watch for complex announcements or quick group decisions. Friday through Sunday, financial mistakes from the past may reoccur. Stay alert. Newly initiated projects may be permanently stalled.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Social and romantic confidence are on the rise. Monday through Thursday, watch for previously shy friends or lovers to issue private invitations. Work officials may also rely heavily on your past efforts or public reputation. Accept the compliment but remain cautious. New relationships will take extra time to fully develop. After Thursday, workplace alliances will subtly shift. Older colleagues may expect special treatment. Go slow and avoid direct confrontation.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Over the next six days, unfinished relationships may reappear. Expect sudden social messages and fast romantic demands. Go slow, if possible, and avoid delicate emotional triangles. Loved ones will be unusually sensitive to minor changes. Late this week, watch also for a last-minute job or business proposal. Legal standards and ethical decisions may be key influences. Don't hesitate to ask complex questions or reveal private information; integrity will prove vital.

Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 22). Over the next few days, subtle family pressures may steadily increase. Much depends on personal insight and learned spiritual lessons. Allow loved ones extra time to contemplate failed decisions or resolve past doubts. After midweek, fast financial changes, vague documents or business messages may cause confusion. Ponder job improvements and thoroughly check all records. By late Saturday, a new era of group participation and revised career goals will arrive.

Sagittarius (Nov. 23-Dec. 21). Don't ignore the comments, social ideas or opinions of others. At the moment, home and emotional security may be deeply important to friends and loved ones. Find gently expressive ways to explore common ground and all will be well. After Thursday, younger colleagues may present creative ideas or ask for special consideration. Minor workplace politics may soon become challenging. Offer your expertise and wait for decisions from authority figures.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 20). Before midweek, your insight and attention to detail will impress key officials. Contemplate new procedures and propose fresh projects. Advancement will be fast and permanent. Early Thursday, a long-term friend may be mildly jealous of a new relationship. Remain focused and refuse to discuss delicate triangles. Loved ones will eventually regret their moodiness, isolation or criticism. Remain calm. Intimacy and trust will soon be rekindled.

Aquarius (Jan. 21-Feb. 19). Monday through Wednesday, complex work projects may be replaced by potentially rewarding team assignments. Before mid-February, established policies will need to change. Expect sudden reversals and watch for positive ways to expand all business relationships. Thursday through Sunday, a private power struggle between relatives requires diplomacy. Don't confront. Loved ones are highly sensitive and will not appreciate an honest or bold discussion of key facts.

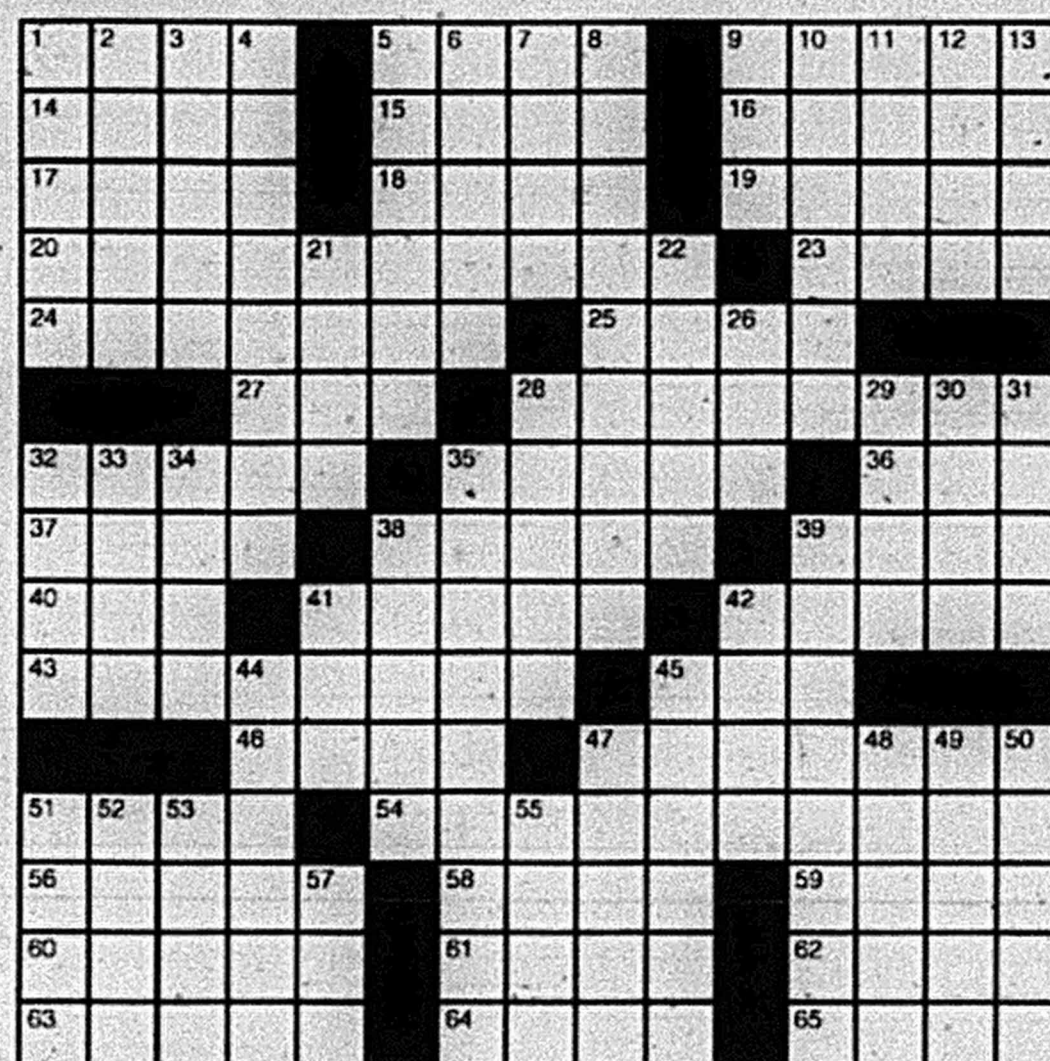
Pisces (Feb. 20-March 20). Loved ones may ask for practical advice over the next few days. Use this time to plan new home events, clarify finances or arrange educational programs. For many Pisceans a renewed interest in public discussion will help resolve home disputes. Someone close may need to clearly explain their past social judgments. Offer forgiveness. Your reaction to complex emotional needs or strained family dynamics may prove vital to the success of long-term relationships.

If your birthday is this week ... Challenge the ideas of close colleagues over the next few weeks. Planetary alignments indicate that important job promotions or revised educational goals will soon bring remarkable opportunities. Before mid-March, friends, colleagues and trusted companions may test your patience. Don't hesitate to offer confident decisions. Much of 2004 will bring practical advancement and renewed business ambition. After June 11, watch also for a sudden reversal in a long-term friendship or new love affair. Someone close may wish to evaluate the long-term goals of key relationships. If so, remain quietly detached and expect slow progress throughout the summer. By early September, all will work in your favor.

Crossword

- ACROSS
- Go over like a lead balloon
 - Invites
 - Yawning
 - vera
 - Lure
 - Underwater breathing organs
 - Kudrow or Alther
 - podrida
 - Church instrument
 - In the future
 - See socially
 - Answer
 - Sported
 - Quaint
 - Bread sources
 - Eye: pref.
 - Felt concern
 - Parched
 - Peel
 - Plays' players
 - Signify
 - NASA's ISS partner
 - Points of embarkation
 - Rib
 - Sodium
 - May honoree
 - Lots and lots
 - Lightweight rifle
 - Mild expletive
 - Kind of cook
 - Jots
 - Border on
 - Too
 - Author of "Dred"
 - Pete of baseball
 - New Jersey five
 - Virile guy
 - Favorites
 - Being: Lat.

- DOWN
- Harvest machine
 - Popeye's girl
 - Hebrew lawgiver
 - Very tall, thin person
 - Teem
 - Caesar, e.g.
 - Joy lead-in
 - Steadfast supporters
 - Before now
 - Supporting beam
 - Pond scum
 - du jour
 - Feudal serf
 - Busy person's list
 - Oxen couplers
 - Garnet's color
 - Sew loosely
 - Brainchild
 - Important times
 - "Auld Lang"
 - Org. of oil producers
 - Liquid asset
 - Caspian feeder
 - Poker cheater
 - Change
 - Thin layer of tissue
 - Niner or Buc
 - Spanish bull
 - Canada's capital
 - Dull surfaces
 - Pie surface



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01/21/04

Solutions



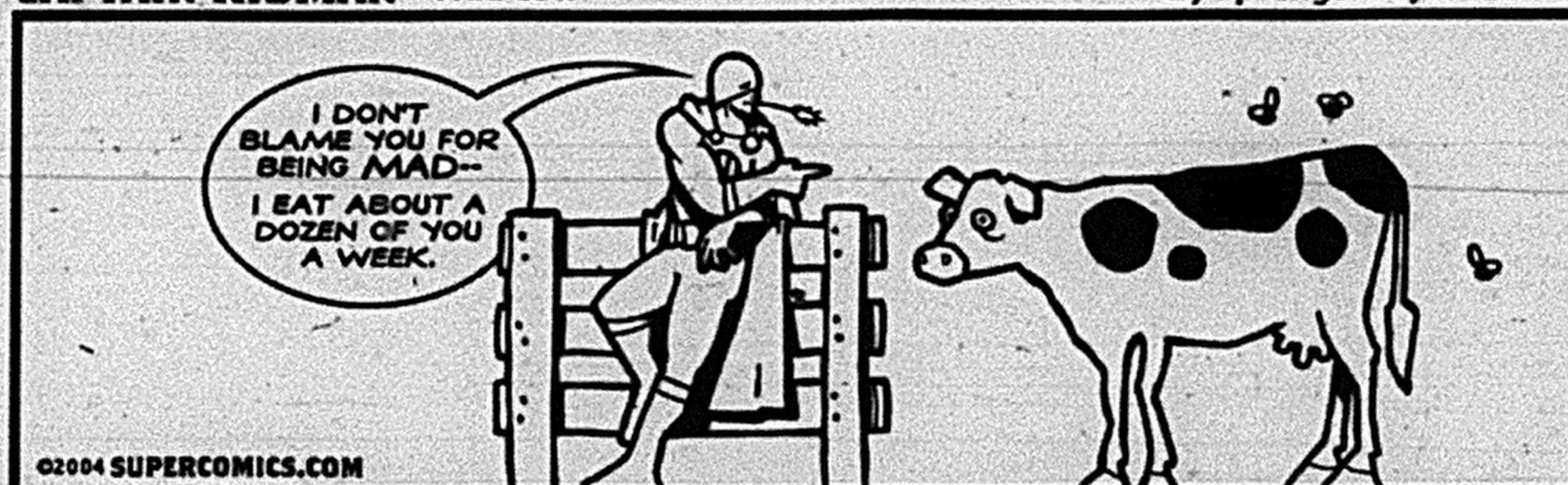
- Waits for the green
- Cozy retreats
- Irregularly notched
- Part of a table setting
- Memorizing process
- Minuscule particle
- Double-read instrument
- Bigwig in D.C.



mortco@mindspring.com #176

CAPTAIN RIBMAN in Mad Cow

by Sprengelmeyer & Davis



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PAUL



BY BILLY O'KEEFE www.mrbilly.com

Sports

Slow start or slow season for Captains?

Sports
Commentary

By Tom Geary
Staff Columnist

Basketball season is underway.

You may not have noticed since the men's basketball team is playing so poorly, but it's actually mid-season already.

The Captains (8-5 overall, 2-0 USA South) are off to a rough start in 2003-04. Although CNU opened conference play with wins over Shenandoah and Chowan, the team has looked bad.

And I don't mean Michael Jackson "Bad."

The Captains dropped four of its first 10 games, at home the team lost only four games (48-4) in its first three seasons combined in the Freeman Center.

CNU lost to Chestnut Hill, a first-year program, 62-57 in the first round of the Captains Shootout on Jan. 2.

Four of Chestnut Hill's freshmen didn't even play in high school. Enough said.

In addition to the poor start and humiliating loss, two players — senior Marcus Carter and freshman Travis Klink — left the team over winter break.

Carter, the team's only senior, had yet to start a game in his four seasons with the Captains.

And really, it's not like the Captains needed a guy named Klink on the team while shooting just 40.6 percent on field goals this season (down from 45.4 percent last season).

Believe it or not, it hasn't always been this way. This isn't the same team your older brother or sister saw play. It has been an uncharacteristic season so far for Coach C.J. Woollum and his squad.

You might think that the football team advanced far into the NCAA postseason with its second-round appearance this past fall.

Woollum, who is one victory shy of 400 in his career, has coached the team to 15 NCAA appearances in his last 18 seasons.

Heck, just three seasons ago the team was one shot away from the Final Four, but lost in overtime to William Paterson in the Elite 8.

So what's wrong with this year's team? Losing Carlos Heard, Jermaine Woods, Terry Gray and Tyrell Veney to graduation was huge.

Heard, Woods, and Gray were each All-Conference players in their careers and known for making big plays.

Gray is the school's all-time leader in career blocked shots.

This year's team doesn't have an Antoine Sinclair or Lamont Strothers, two of the best players in school history. The best player on the team this year, Otho Hampton, hadn't even started a game with the Captains until this season.

CNU's 6-5 start is its worst since the 1991-92 season when it was 5-6.

But all hope isn't lost. That 1991-92 team ended up 17-10 and tied for first in the old Dixie Conference. CNU won its first two USA South conference games, when the games really start to mean a lot, and hosted powerhouse N.C. Wesleyan in a late game on Jan. 20.

See GEARY, page 11

Soaring Back



Junior Otho Hampton (33) goes for a lay-up over a Shenandoah defender during Wednesday's game.

Second half of the season opens with two back-to-back wins for the Captains

By Rob Silsbee
Assistant Sports Editor

The first USA South Conference game for both CNU and Shenandoah came against each other last Wednesday. CNU defeated the Shenandoah squad in the last 11 meetings at the Freeman Center and were 29-7 against the conference foe overall. The 6-5 Captains played host to the 4-5 Hornets and freshman Steven Murrer commented on the atmosphere before the game.

"You know, it was the first conference game," he said "everyone was real hyped." The freshman came in off the bench and led the team with 19 points.

Right from the start the game took a turn for the aggressive. The first half found both teams playing tough defense

and forcing tough shots. There were six lead changes in the first half and as time expired the score was 27-27.

Going into the half, Murrer led the Captains with 10 points followed by Romeo with six.

More importantly for the Captains, however, was Romeo's defense on Shenandoah star Chris Rhone.

Rhone was averaging almost 24 points per game and in the first half Romeo stifled his performance to an 0-4 shooting performance and forced three turnovers.

Both teams shot a meager 38.5% in the first half with very few good shooting performances.

Romeo and Murrer led the Captains while Kenny Purnell and Chad Brashears led the Hornets with eight and six points respectively.

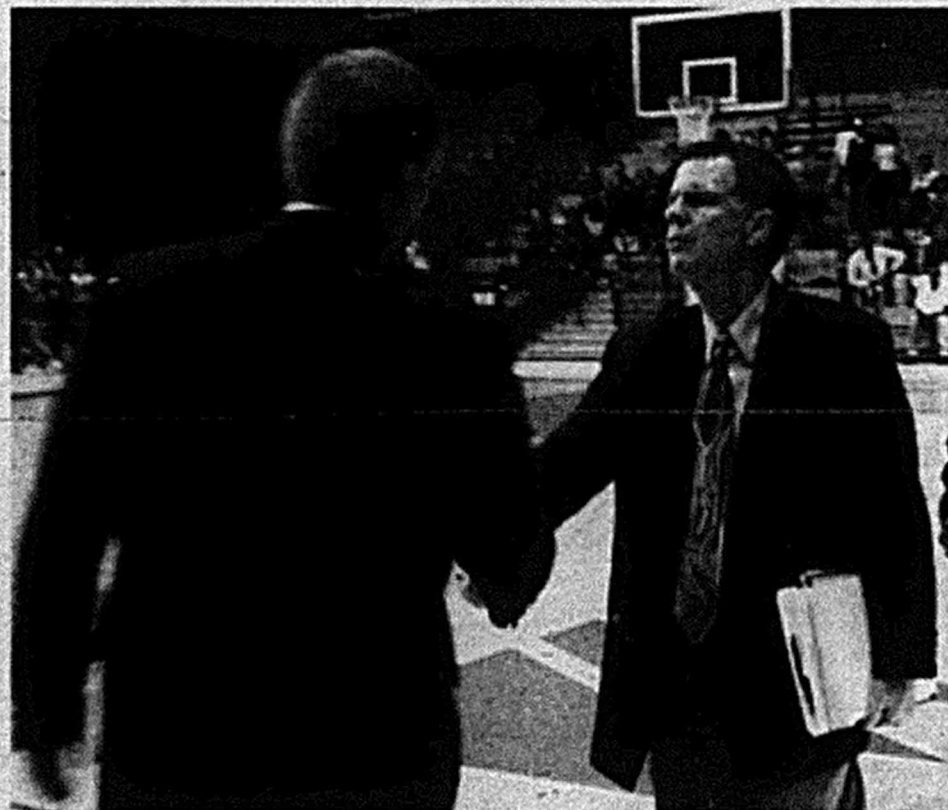
The Captains controlled the first half but the Hornets just wouldn't go away.

The second half was much of the same story.

As soon as the Captains began to pull away, the Hornets would find a way to climb back into it.

Romeo and Murrer continued to lead the team as Steven went 8-9 with the one shot he missed being a rushed three-point attempt because of the shot-clock.

The two combined went 6-8 from 3-point land and com-



Coach Woollum shakes hands with Shenandoah head coach at the conclusion of Wednesday's game.

bined for 35 points.

CNU pulled away with it one last time and the Hornets were forced to foul and lost the game 52-60.

Rhone was held to just seven points from the field, 13 including free-throws.

"I thought we did a good job on D," Coach C.J. Woollum said, "If you take away Rhone's free throws I think we did a really good job on D."

The win was very well rounded as Mark Hepner played with his usual intensity and added five clutch points off of the free throw

line.

He also led the team with nine rebounds. Blake Brookman added six assists and three steals while David Turner came off the bench and worked for five huge blocks.

"A big part of [Wednesday] was the overall team," Woollum said, "There was a great spirit in the locker room afterwards. We felt really united tonight."

After the Captains took

See MEN'S BASKETBALL, page 11

Playoff Matchups: who will win it all?

NFL playoffs
heat up as
Super Bowl
XXXVIII
approaches

By Michael Oden
Contributing Writer

It's mid-January, and to many football fans that means one thing: playoffs. This year's playoff season has been exciting so far, with upsets and close games abounding. As the weekend approaches, only four teams are left to compete for their conference championships and, in turn, a trip to the Super Bowl. Now is also the time when you tend to hear everyone's predictions on who's going to win. Here's a tip: listen up. Anyone looking to play the odds come Super Bowl Sunday can benefit from this "expert" analysis. Even those not interested in gambling can seem knowledgeable to their friends while watching the big game. So, without further adieu, here is a rundown of the four remaining teams.

Carolina Panthers

The Carolina Panthers are the "Cinderella" team of this year's playoffs. They have just come off a stunning 29-23 double overtime win against the St. Louis Rams, a game they were expected to lose. The Panthers use a good combination of offense and defense to win games, although their offense tends to carry the load. Carolina boasts the third best rushing offense in the league, led by running back Stephen Davis (1,444 rushing yards and eight touchdowns). They also have a potent passing game, with breakout quarterback Jake Delhomme (3,219 passing yards, 19 touchdowns) and wide receiver Steve Smith (1,110 receiving yards, seven touchdowns) having big years. Stephen Davis suffered a strained quadriceps muscle in last week's game and is questionable for this week. Rookie DeShaun Foster will replace Davis if he is unable to play.

Philadelphia Eagles

The Panthers' opponent in the NFC title game is the Philadelphia Eagles. The Eagles may not seem too impressive on paper (18th in total offense, 20th in total defense), but they are undoubtedly one of the top teams in the NFL. After starting the season 2-3, the Eagles went on a 9-game winning streak and have won 11 of their last 12 games (including the playoffs). Like the Panthers, the Eagles also have a good

See NFL, page 11

Lady Captains improve to 7-5 sailing past Shenandoah

Comeback over Shenandoah win fueled by young players Jessica Hutt and Candice Bryant

By Erick Hellwig
Contributing Writer

The CNU Lady Captains improved to 7-5 overall and 2-1 in the USA South with last Wednesday's comeback win over conference rival Shenandoah.

The triumph improved the teams' record

to 7-5 on the season and 2-1 in the USA South. It also served as Coach Carolyn Hunter's 100th career win, making her the third woman in CNU Women's basketball history to have accomplished such a feat.

After trailing 43-34 at halftime, the Lady Captains shot a blistering 46% while hitting 7-8 free throws.

The Lady Hornets shot only 19% from the field in the second half and were manhandled on the scoreboard 42-16.

Shenandoah's Cassie Womack had 15 points, but it was no match for the four CNU Lady Captains in double figures.

Freshman guard Jess Hutt unloaded 18 while

Tomorrow Lofton added 16 points, seven rebounds and five steals.

Candice Bryant added another 14 points and six rebounds, while Samantha Davis went for 11 and seven.

The Lady Captains' roster boasts of six freshmen, including Hutt, Bryant and Davis.

The youth of the team

had its effect on the early stages of the season, but following their 2-5 start, the Lady Captains' 5-0 run in January has silenced the naysayers.

Hunter said "no matter what the situation or the

See WOMEN'S BASKETBALL, page 11

GEARY,
from page 10

The Captains are shooting better. In its 85-72 win at Chowan on Jan. 17, CNU shot 49.1 percent.

And best of all, Woollum isn't in denial; he has

“
The players need to come together better as a team...

”
admitted that the team is playing poorly.

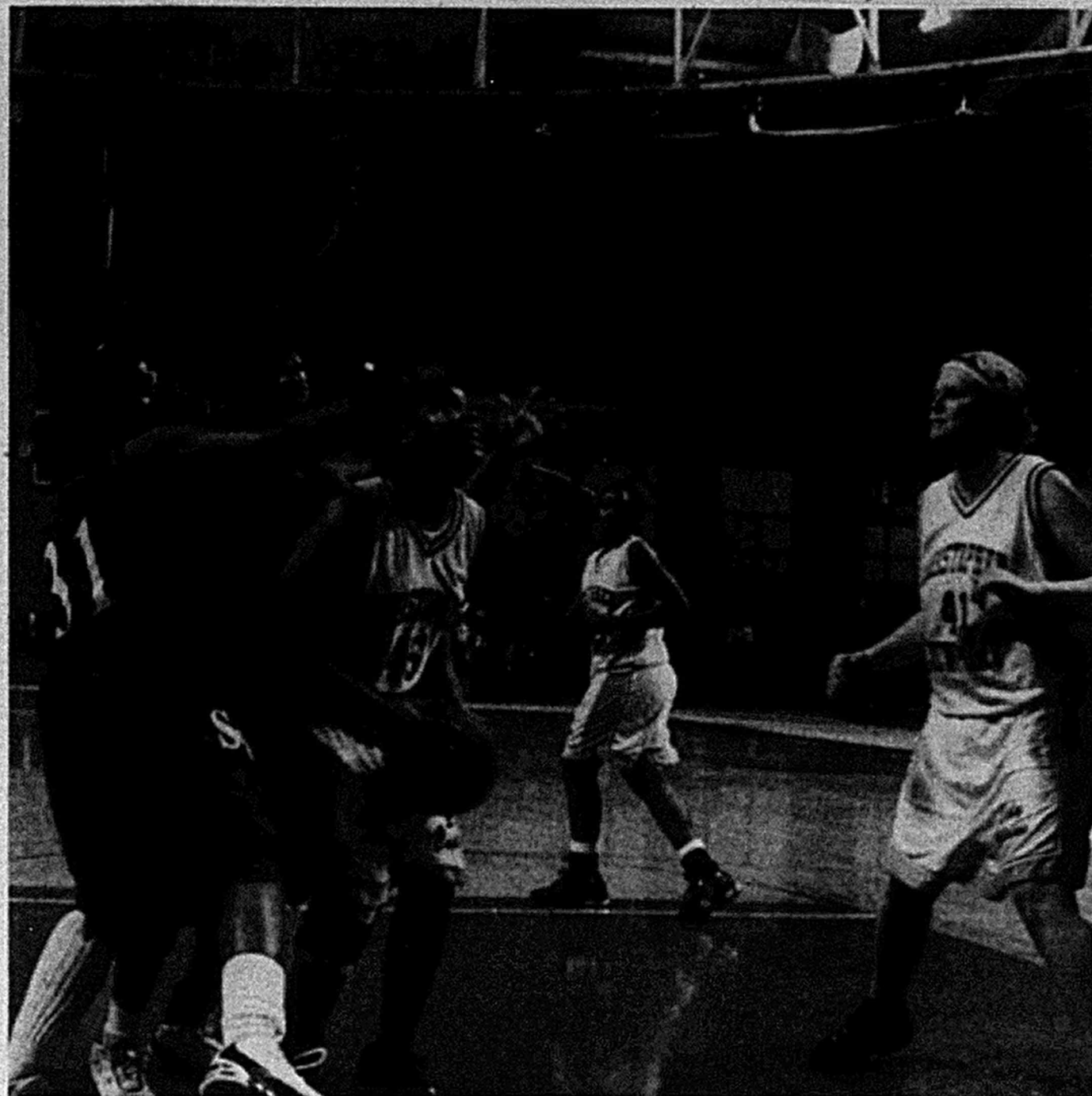
They just need to find some solutions. The players need to come together better as a team, and somebody needs to step up and be this year's Jermaine Woods.

And as The Rock would say, the players need to know their roles. Although he is playing injured, Hampton needs to continue his solid play (16.4 PPG, 8.3 RPG, leads the team in steals, second in blocks and assists).

Mark Hepner, Jeremy Romeo, Jordan Short, and Blake Brookman need to take it to the next level or the Captains will be in danger of missing the NCAA postseason for the second time in three years.

Whether the team will overcome its slow start and salvage the 2003-04 season is tough to say, but don't expect CNU to just give up and stop playing like the juggernaut that it has been for the better part of the last two decades.

The important part of the season, after all, is just underway.



Freshman Candice Bryant (45) puts up a jump shot in the paint during Wednesday's game against Shenandoah. The Lady Captains won the game 76-59.

WOMEN'S
BASKETBALL,
from page 10

youth on the team is, we still expect to finish on top”.

The Lady Captains recovery this season, aside from Coach Hunter, can be attributed to the leadership and heightened performance of a select group of players.

Senior Tomorrow Lofton has been invaluable, posting 15.5 points per game and 4.7 assists, both team highs, while grabbing 9.1 rebounds.

The only other senior, 6-1 center Amber Hallman, has averaged 13.8 ppg, 9.4 ppg (team high), blocked 33 shots.

Freshman Candice Bryant leads all freshman with

12 ppg, and up and comers Jess Hutt and Sam Davis have taken the opportunity of increased playing time and run with it, posting

“
The expectations should still be there, but getting where you want to go is going to take some time.

-Carolyn Hunter
Head Coach

”
numbers that don't coincide with their inexperience.

Coach Carolyn Hunter has lead the Lady Captains to first place finishes in four of her five years here. With those results come a raised bar of expectations that now looms over every Lady Captains season.

With that said, Coach Hunter still understood the obstacles facing her team at the season's onset, and she was prepared to deal with them.

“As a coach, you know [in this situation] that first and foremost you are going to need to show some patience early. The expectations are and should still be there, but getting where you want to go is going to take some time.”

MEN'S BASKETBALL,
from page 10

the 1-0 conference record by defeating Shenandoah, they headed to Chowan on Saturday for the second conference match-up of the season. After Shenandoah, Coach Woollum admitted that they have to take each game one at a time and also pointed out that Saturday's game verse Chowan would “be a war.”

At halftime again the score was tied, this time at 39. Neither team played exceptionally well on de-

fense. In the second half however, CNU's pressure defense stepped up and held Chowan to just under 40% shooting from the field. The Captains offense also became more potent as they shot 54% in the second half. The game ended in a Captains victory at 85-72.

Mark Hepner led the way with 20 points and five rebounds. Four other Captains scored in double figures; Blake Brookman, Otho Hampton, and Jeremy Romeo all added at least 11 points each. The Captains improved to 2-0 in the conference and 8-5 overall.

NFL, from page 10

balance of offense and defense. As the only big star on the team, McNabb basically carries the offense. He is able to win games by passing (3,216 yards, 16 touchdowns) as well as rushing (355 yards, three touchdowns). He did both of these in last week's 20-17 overtime victory over the Green Bay Packers. He ran for 107 yards, which is a playoff record for quarterbacks. He also passed for 248 yards and two touchdowns, including a crucial first down pass on 4-26 that allowed the Eagles to stay in the game.

New England Patriots

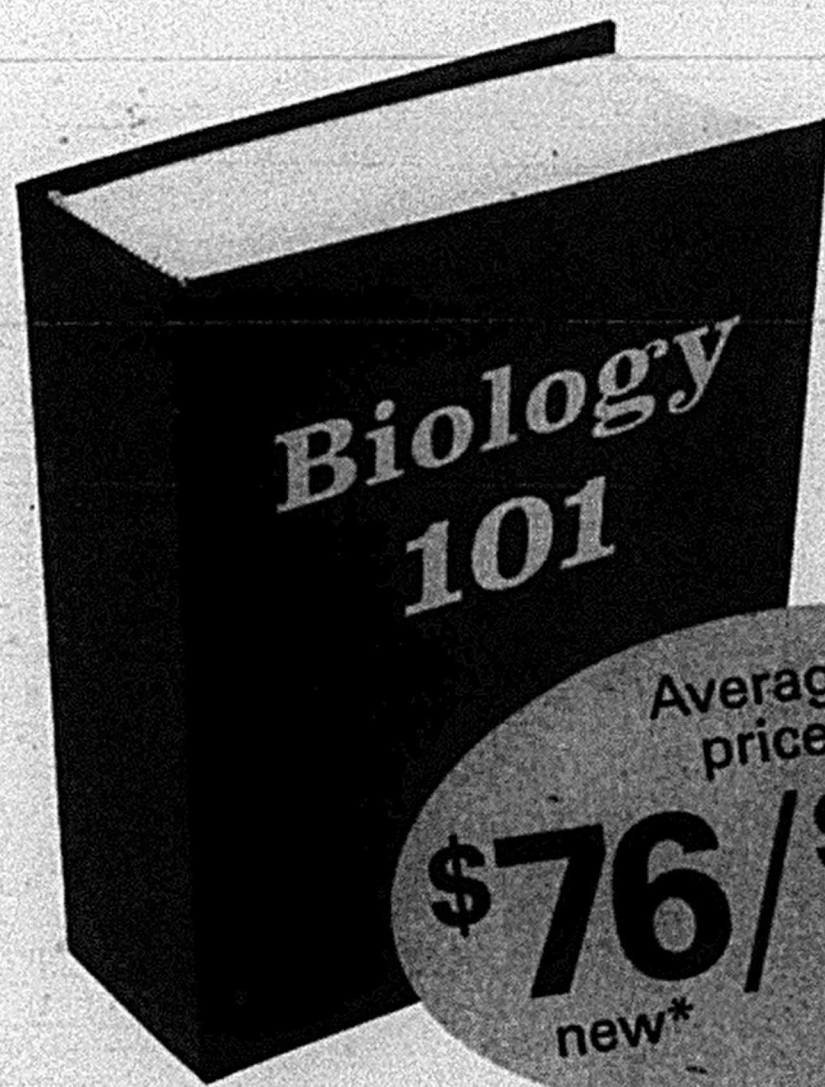
The New England Patriots are the favorites to win the AFC title, mostly because of their stifling defense. The Patriots have the NFL's fourth-best rushing defense (89.6 yards per game) and the seventh-best defense overall. Don't overlook their offense, though. New England has an extremely talented quarterback in Tom Brady (3,620 passing yards, 23 touchdowns), a former Super Bowl MVP. Also in their favor is a current 13-game winning streak (including last week's 17-14 win over the Tennessee Titans) and a perfect 9-0 record at home.

Indianapolis Colts

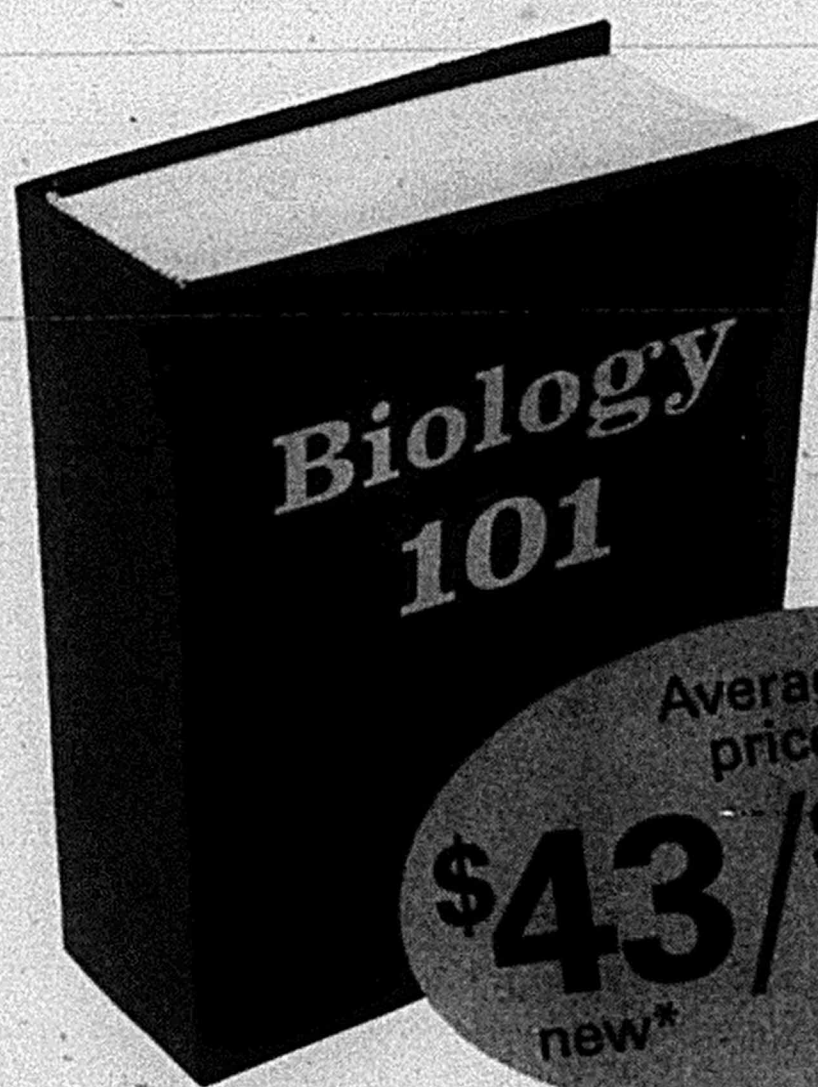
The Patriots have their work cut out for them playing Peyton Manning and the Indianapolis Colts come to town. The complete opposite of the Patriots, the Colts rely on a nearly unstoppable offense to win games. They have it all, with quarterback Manning (an NFL-best 4,267 passing yards and 29 touchdowns), wide receiver Marvin Harrison (1,272 receiving yards and 10 touchdowns), and running back Edgerrin James (1,259 rushing yards and 11 touchdowns) all having monster years. The AFC title game looks to be an extremely good one, as a classic battle between offense and defense unfolds.

By the time this article is printed, the results of these games will already be known and the match-up for Super Bowl XXXVIII (to be played on February 1) will be set. Even so, I will test my NFL expertise by predicting the winners of each game. Philadelphia will hold off a surprisingly tough Carolina team to win 24-21. New England will force the Colts to punt for the first time in the playoffs as they ride Tom Brady's arm and their defense to a 24-17 victory. As for the Super Bowl, we'll just have to see what happens.

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