

THE TIGER

Young Tigers impress
in annual spring
football game.
C1



EST. 1907, SOUTH CAROLINA'S OLDEST COLLEGE NEWSPAPER ROARS FOR CLEMSON

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"Today, we are all Hokies"

When a university sets its academic limitations—and regulations, when it sets goals to better the quality of the education it provides, it should stick to its guns.

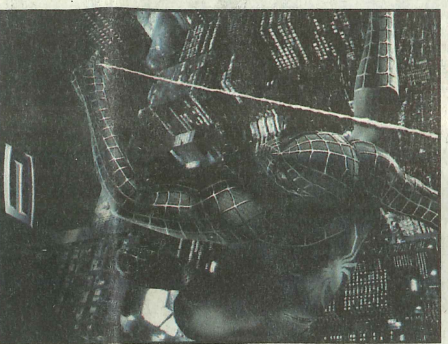
Inside OPINIONS

When a university sets its academic limitations—and regulations, when it sets goals to better the quality of the education it provides, it should stick to its guns.

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WEATHER

FRIDAY: Mostly Sunny



SATURDAY: Sunny

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SUNDAY: Sunny

H1 79 Lo 55

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A SHOW OF SOLIDARITY: Clemson students, faculty and community members gather in the amphitheater in front of the library to reflect upon the lives that were lost in the Virginia Tech shootings on Monday.

People across the nation mourn victims of senseless violence.

JONATHAN YONGCUE

STAFF WRITER

Virginia Tech held an emotional candlelight vigil on Tuesday to honor the victims of the deadliest shooting rampage in United States' history.

On Monday morning, April 16, 2007, fourth-year Virginia Tech English major Cho Seung-hui, 23, shot and killed 33 peo-

ple, including himself, on the campus in Blacksburg, Va. The murders occurred in two separate incidents at 7:15 a.m. eastern standard time (EST) and approximately 9:45 a.m. The first shooting took place in West Ambler Johnston Hall, a co-ed dormitory that houses around 895 students. Senior Ryan Clark, from Georgia, and freshman Emily Hilscher of Virginia were killed in the first incident.

He then returned to his apartment briefly and mailed a package to NBC containing what was described as a 1,800 word "mani-

festo", stating that "you [presumably, the "rich charlatans" he railed against elsewhere in the letter] made me do this." The second incident took place at Norris Hall, an engineering and science building. Seung-hui stormed several classrooms, shooting indiscriminately with a silent and calm demeanor. After the second incident, Seung-hui turned the gun on himself. In a news release, university officials stated that a 9 mm handgun and .22-caliber handgun were obtained from Norris Hall. Lab results prove that one of the two

see **VIGIL** page A2

Relay benefits cancer society

An annual walk behind the library offers exercise and entertainment for a good cause.

JENNIFER SALANE

NEWS EDITOR

That time of year has already come and gone again. Flyers were posted around every turn on campus and consistent e-mails were sent to the entire student body, all for one reason: to help cancer patients and cancer survivors.

The event was a success this year due to different teams organized by the 15-person Relay for Life committee. "The teams did a really good job at doing fundraisers before the event and raising more money than from just the letter writing campaign," said Laura Register, the 2007 Relay for Life chair.

Some teams did unique fundraisers such as Ancheaux's night or Spill the Beans night.

"We all have specific tasks, but we also work together as a whole to get done whatever needs to be finished," Register said.

Students were not the only participants in Relay for Life. Faculty and community members were encouraged to help as well. In fact, the participants in Faculty Arrest played a huge part in this year's success, according to Register.

Faculty Arrest is another event that Relay for Life organizes where the Relay for Life committee "arrests" the faculty, and they call their friends to ask for money to use for bail.

see **RELAY** page A5

Cuomo researchs loans

Illegal activities cause distrust in loan providers.

CAITLIN GREELY

STAFF WRITER

A college education, one of the most vital, expensive investments a young adult can bank on today's world.

For many students, crossing the bridge between childhood and the adult world with a college degree requires a significant amount of borrowed money to cover what scholarships and out-of-pocket money cannot when seeking a college degree.

With these loans comes the need of a certain trust level established between the provider and the student borrower, and as New York Attorney General Andrew Cuomo, it may be a relationship that benefits the school more than the student.

Cuomo's recent probe of the \$85 billion student loan industry found that many colleges have established "preferred lender" lists and entered into revenue sharing and other financial arrangements with these lenders.

Some schools have "exclusive" relationships with the lending companies and provide employees with incentives such as all-expenses-paid trips to exotic locations all because they directed students to the lenders.

SLM Corporation, commonly known as Saline Mae, is the nation's largest student loan provider, and was the largest target of Cuomo's widening investigation. In a settlement announced on Wednesday, Saline Mae agreed to pay \$2 million into a fund to educate students and par-

ents about the financial aid industry, and will adopt a code of conduct developed by the attorney general. Cuomo investigated the types of illegal practices. "There is a spectrum of what we consider to be deceptive and illegal practices, from financial incentives that go back to the schools to financial incentives to financial aid officers, to employees of lenders being stationed at schools," Cuomo said.

see **LOAN** page A4

STUDENT LOAN STATISTICS

50% of recent college graduates have student loans with an average loan debt of \$10,000

The average cost of college increases at twice the rate of inflation

On average, public schools cost \$13,000 per year and private schools cost \$28,000 per year

MEGAN BELL graphics

Need a job this summer or next fall?

'55 Exchange - The new home of Clemson Ice Cream and the Tiger Slab. Come work the SLAB! Competitive wages; bonus plan! Are you passionate about the Clemson Experience!

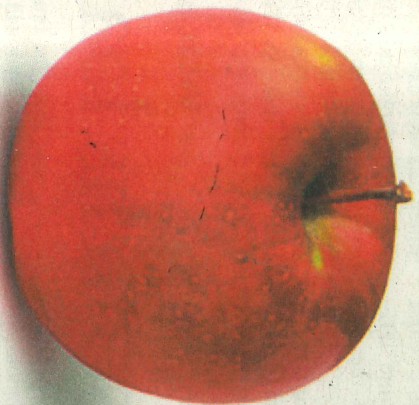


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ARE FINALS MAKING YOU STRESSED?

You can't control your finals, but you can control what you eat! Your nutrition plays an important role in how you cope with stress.

DO:

- Eat Breakfast!
- Take a daily vitamin/mineral supplement
- Eat regular meals and snacks:

- Whole Grains
- Lean Protein
- Fruits
- Vegetables
- Soups
- Yogurt
- Fish
- Skim Milk



AVOID:

- Tea
- Coffee
- Soda
- Alcohol
- Cocoa
- High fat or fast foods
- High sugar content foods
- High sodium foods
- Nuts
- Egg yolks
- Butter
- Cheese
- Shrimp
- Red meat
- Coconut oil



VIGIL: Students gather at candlelight service *from page A1*

in a mental health hospital after female students reported that he had touched them inappropriately and stalked them.

Some students and parents are criticizing the Virginia Tech police and administration for a crucial lack of public announcements after the first incident.

They believe an e-mail should have been sent out and classes cancelled, but university officials maintain that they believed the dormitory murders to be an isolated murder-suicide and keeping students in class was the safest response.

Students received notification of the first shooting by e-mail approximately two hours after the first shooting, around the time when Seung-hui began his attack in Norris Hall.

"There was nothing people could really do about it," said Jayson Goff, a Clemson sophomore studying business management. "No one really prepares for something like that."

"When I first heard what happened, I cried, but then I ran and called my friends to make sure they were okay," said Julia Lewis, a freshman studying business.

There has been an outpour of support from across the nation in response to the tragedy.

The day after the shooting, Clemson students "put aside their silly rivalries" by participating in "National Orange and Maroon Day."

Clemson plans to send counselors to assist at Virginia Tech.

Some organizations on campus came together to organize a banner signing, in remembrance of the students who lost their lives

and to show support for our sister university.

Also, President Jim Barker asked everyone to pause for a moment at 2 p.m. on Tuesday to "quietly join the Clemson family with the Virginia Tech family."

"When I see the Virginia Tech family, it reminds me of our Clemson family. We're both colleges who are very proud of their universities. It is hard to imagine how they feel," Mrs. Barker, President Barker's wife, said.

"We are sister land-grant schools and sister ACC schools," said President Barker. "Those of us on the Clemson campus want to help in some way in this tragedy."

Clemson's undergraduate and graduate student governments held a candlelight vigil on Wednesday, April 18, at 9 p.m. in the amphitheater.

As the vigil concluded, the Tillman bells rang once for every life taken, and Taps played afterwards.

"My hope is that this individual and collective act on our campus will be of some comfort to the faculty, staff and students at Virginia Tech," said Barker. The Virginia Tech tragedy has all universities reviewing their safety policies.

"We are evaluating and reviewing all of our own security and communications systems in light of these devastating events," said Barker.

The Clemson University police have also increased watches on campus, and remind any faculty or staff member or student to immediately contact them for any safety information or assistance.

QUESTIONS? Please contact Kimberly A. Rapp, Clemson Dining

Service's Registered Dietitian, at nutrition@clemson.edu

"The Earth is what we all have in common."

-Wendell Barry

By Betsy Barrows
Graphic by Emmett McQuinn

Earth: vast oceans, tropical rainforests, rugged mountains and never ending deserts are just a few of the magnificent characteristics of this wild planet. Because of its unique positioning in relation to the sun, it is the only planet in the solar system which can support life. The human race exists because of this, so it is only fair to protect that which makes it possible for us to live. Sunday, April 22 marks a time to celebrate the earth and all it has to offer to its inhabitants. Earth Day is the largest secular holiday in the world and rightly so. About six billion people have the privilege of calling the earth their home. As stewards of this planet, the human race has a responsibility to preserve Earth's beauty and majesty. Thirty-seven years ago, this was exactly what one American senator had in mind when he designated April 22 as Earth Day. After witnessing the devas-

tating effects of an oil spill off the coast of Santa Barbara, Senator Gaylord Nelson thought it necessary to devote a special day to educating people about environmental issues. His ultimate purpose was to encourage the government to support a lasting environmental agenda. The first Earth Day in 1970 witnessed the participation of over 20 million people; today, that number is over 500 million. In addition, Earth Day is celebrated worldwide in over 175 countries. This holiday encompasses a number of purposes: it is a time to celebrate the Earth and the life that it gives, a time to increase awareness of the environmental issues which threaten this life and a time to reflect on the responsibility each citizen of this planet has in preserving and protecting that life. How will you celebrate your Earth Day?

Be Informed. Know What Harms Your Earth.

Many believe that the most urgent issue threatening the environment and the existence of species all over the world is global warming. It is as hot a topic as ever, no pun intended. But what exactly is global warming? The first step is to understand the problem before you can comprehend how to help.

Global warming means exactly what it sounds like: the globe is getting warmer. The reason behind all of this is the ozone layer, which serves as a protective blanket to the earth, is being damaged by the gases that human industrial activities release into the air, namely carbon dioxide, or CO₂.

The massive amount of pollution being emitted into the Earth's atmosphere creates a sort of blockade which prohibits heat energy created on the Earth from escaping. Not only that, but the damaged ozone layer allows for more intense and powerful rays from the sun to penetrate through this layer to the earth. In other words, it's getting hot in here.

The repercussions of an increase in the Earth's temperatures are very serious. Scientists have already attributed

many natural disasters and plant and animal extinctions to global warming.

Future generations will undoubtedly witness catastrophic problems if global warming persists. Sea levels will continue to rise which means coastal cities could eventually erode away; many of which have already begun to do so.

Weather patterns will become more extreme which will seriously damage agriculture and ultimately entire, habitats. Poorer countries will suffer most intensely, because crop loss and failure as well as droughts will continue to leave people starving.

"It's important for people to understand that environmental issues such as global warming are not simply 'tree hugger' issues, but social ones as well," Laura Ceva, the co-president of Students for Environmental Awareness, said.

"Everything that we take for granted comes from the environment: food, clothes, and yes, even beer," Ceva said. "Clemson students need to get involved, join groups and move to empower themselves and their peers through education and awareness of the very issues that affect the world around us."

Earth Day Festivities at Clemson

This Monday, April 23, grab a friend and check out the Earth Day festivities organized by Students for Environmental Efforts held at the amphitheatre from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Environmental and community service advocacy groups such as Solid Green, Engineers Without Borders, Roots and Shoots and biosystems engineering students will be handing out information, giving away t-shirts and other goods and encouraging organization membership. In addition, the CAT bus will give out tickets at the amphitheatre for their annual bike raffle. Each year, in celebration of National Transportation Week as well as Earth Day, they give away a mountain bike to not only encourage people to ride the CAT bus but also to inform them that CAT buses have bike racks on them. This is to encourage students to utilize more environmentally friendly modes of transportation.

"The drawing will be May 1, and you don't have to be present to win," Cindy Rinehart, a coordinator for the raffle said. "It is for a Hard Rock XC mountain bike and we will also give away the helmet and lock. We want to thank all of our Clemson students who do ride the buses, so this is one of those fun things we get to do throughout the year."

Look for raffle tickets in the Clemson University Directory, The Tiger and at the Earth Day celebration this Monday. You can also find them on the CAT buses.

5 Ways You Can Save Your Earth

Many believe that the amount of carbon emissions can be better controlled if people do their part in conserving the amount of energy they use. Use these five simple guidelines to do your part in protecting your earth.

1. Conserve water. Do not leave the faucet on while brushing your teeth.
2. Be conscious of gasoline saving techniques. Carpool whenever you can, and try to make all of your errands in one trip.
3. Turn off your lights when you are not using them, and try to unplug appliances when not in use.
4. Use compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs.) They use two-thirds less energy and last 10 times longer than standard bulbs.
5. Create an extra trash bin just for recycling.

Weekly World Update

National Report

■ **Man caught with ties to Baghdad:** An alleged Iraqi sleeper agent was convicted Monday, April 16, of lying about his connections to the former Baghdad regime. Sami Latchin, 59, was sent by Saddam Hussein to spy in the United States. Latchin was taken into custody after the verdict. The jurors studied evidence, including the testimony from three former Iraqi intelligence officers, two of whom took the stand under aliases. Additional evidence included documents shipped to a Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) agent by Iraqi dissidents after United States tanks rolled into Baghdad. Latchin, an Iraqi-born United States citizen, was arrested in August of 2004 and was a former airline employee. Latchin was convicted of all charges against him, including lying on his United States citizenship application, acting as an unregistered foreign agent, conspiring to pose an unregistered agent, lying to an FBI agent and violating United States sanctions against Iraq.

■ **School field trip raises questions surrounding travel restrictions:** A scheduled trip to Cuba over a New York City public high school's spring break has recently raised concerns about whether the school group violated United States travel restrictions. A spokesman from the city's Department of Education said that the trip to Cuba was not officially sanctioned by the Beacon School. An essay was one of the requirements along with an application, and the school Web site eventually posted a list of the 30 selected students who selected the trip. Educational licenses to visit Cuba are granted, but not for high school levels. Offenders who violate the terms for traveling to Cuba can face penalties ranging from warnings to a \$65,000 fine.

■ **Young boy burned while on playground:** A two-year-old boy was severely burned on Saturday, April 14, in Middle River, Md., after going down a sliding board at a local elementary school playground. Someone broke into the school, took several bottles of industrial-strength drain-cleaner and splashed it all over the playground. The victim, Payton Potochney, was rushed to a local hospital and scheduled for surgery on Sunday morning. Potochney suffered second and third-degree burns from a cleaner consisting of a strong concentration of sulfuric acid. According to Sergeant Vickie Warehime, whoever splashed the harmful chemicals on the playground probably also suffered burns, and the person could face charges of first-degree assault, burglary and destruction of property. A hazardous materials team used tens of thousands of gallons of water to clean the playground.

World Report

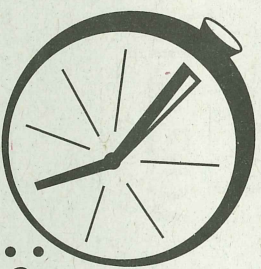
■ **Human-trafficking ring busted:** Police arrested 101 Chinese nationals in two separate raids near Bogota, Colombia, stopping a human-trafficking ring from smuggling them into the United States. According to authorities, the police found the Chinese detainees on April 16 held like prisoners in overcrowded conditions. Among the 42 taken into custody during the first raid, 21 entered Colombia legally. None of the 59 people from the second raid possessed any legal identification. The groups are allegedly victims of an immigrant-smuggling ring who promised to direct them to the United States after using Colombia as a way station. No arrests have been made, but police are interrogating a Costa Rican national who arrived where the Chinese were being held soon after the first police raid.

■ **Fight to pursue nuclear development continues:** Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad warned that Iran would respond to additional United Nations sanctions with new nuclear advances on Monday. The United Nations Security Council set a deadline of late May for Iran to stop its uranium enrichment program. The enrichment process can produce fuel for nuclear reactors or can be used to construct an atomic bomb. The United Nations sanctioned a ban on Iranian arms exports and froze the assets of 28 individuals and companies involved in Iran's nuclear and missiles programs. Iran reported that it had begun operating 3,000 centrifuges at its Natanz plant last week. During Ahmadinejad's speech on Monday, he reiterated that Iran would not back down from its right to pursue nuclear development and reinforced the peaceful nature of the country's program.

■ **Surprise findings suggest multiple ideas behind attacks:** Former intelligence officials reported on April 16 that France's foreign intelligence service learned as early as January of 2001 that Al Qaeda was preparing a hijacking plot likely to involve a United States airplane, confirming a report that also said the Central Intelligence Agency received the warning. The Le Monde newspaper said that it had collected 328 pages of classified documents on Osama bin Laden's terror network between 2000 and 2001. A report said that the Federal Aviation Administration's intelligence unit received 200 pieces of threat-related information daily from U.S. intelligence agencies. The note stated that Bin Laden met with Taliban leaders and members in early 2000, discussing the prospect of hijacking a plane that would take off from Frankfurt, Germany and Listed targets including American Airlines, Delta Airlines, Continental Airlines, United Airlines, Air France and Lufthansa.

News By Numbers

- 90** age, in years, of a giant 44-inch shortraker rockfish that was caught in Alaska by a commercial fishing boat.
- 2,400** distance, in miles, that a married couple paid a cab driver to transport them from New York to Arizona.
- 33,500** number of pennies that a Michigan man received as a lawsuit payout.



:30
Seconds with...

R-DUBB
Local R & B Artist

Jennifer Salane: How did you come up

with the name "R-DUBB?"

RW: My initials are R.W.W., Robert Walden Whitesides. Nothing fancy or catchy; it just is what it is.

JS: Do you have a role model?

RW: Batman! Just kidding. Anyone who has obtained "self-made" success. It's tough to get paid off of what one creates.

JS: How would you categorize your music?

RW: Hip hop, R & B, or dance. I like to call it "feel good" music. I get much help from my Executive Producer, Kevin Spencer.

JS: How long have you been singing?

RW: Since I could speak my first curse word and got a fast lip. But on a professional level, since late 2003.

JS: Do you have a band or are you solo?

RW: R-DUBB is a solo act. I do have an independent label with eight artists, called Carolina Cartel. This includes Real-a-State, Boom, The Dividend Boyz and DJ Phat.

JS: Where is the best place that you have performed in South Carolina?

RW: I love Pitchers on the Lake, especially for summer shows.

JS: What is the name of your new album?

RW: "Bobby's World" is coming out soon, but "Carolina Bounce" was released in December of 2005.

JS: How many albums have you sold since you became an artist?

RW: Five billion and one. Actually, about 11,000 units total. My upcoming album will exceed that alone, I promise.

On this day in history...
April 20

- 1770:** Captain Cook "discovered" Australia.
- 1889:** Adolf Hitler, fascist dictator of Nazi Germany, was born.
- 1999:** Two students entered Columbine High School in Littleton, Colo. and opened fire, leaving 13 students and teachers dead, and 25 wounded.

LOANS: Attorney General investigates distribution of loan money

from page A1

schools, requires disclosure of relationships between colleges and lenders, sets limits on how lenders are chosen for school "preferred lender" lists, and forbids gifts or trips to university employees from lenders.

To understand what the new settlements mean for Clemson University's loan-taking students, it is first necessary to understand how the university's financial aid program works. According to a report given by Clemson student financial aid department, loan sources are divided into two distinct categories: federal, which also include parent loans, and private loans.

Federal loans account for more than 75 percent of the loans taken out by Clemson students during the 2006 to 2007 school year with, about one-fifth taken out by parents, and the rest taken from private sectors. The report notes a total of close to a million in federal loans this year.

While private loans account for less than one-fourth of all loans taken this year, according to Keith Reeves, the associate director of Clemson's Student financial aid department, they loans are a rapidly growing trend among students.

"Six years ago, Clemson students as a whole took out less than \$1 million in private loans. This year, the total is more than \$17 million," Reeves said.

Another report given by the student financial aid department notes 17 private lenders providing a total 1,747 loans to students. Of these, Palmetto Assistance claims nearly half of the amount, followed by signature lenders, the largest being Sallie Mae, and the Education Finance Partners agency. As Reeves continued, Clemson's relationship with these private lenders initially put them under the scrutiny of Attorney General Cuomo's investigation.

However, "Clemson's relationship with its private lenders was investigated and quickly cleared as legitimate," Reeves said.

"While officers from student loan providers visit the financial aid office regularly," Reeves said. "They have never offered the university or its employees anything more than lunch. If they had offered more, we would not have accepted. Our relationships with loan providers are made out of the best interests of Clemson students and not the university itself."

DATE AUCTION
Tuesday April 24th
8 p.m.-12 a.m.
at The Bad Apple

Sponsored by Clemson Crew and Tigers Go

Student steers off beaten path, travels to Uganda

David Lewis takes a chance and puts his career goals on hold to prevent violence.

MELISSA WHITSON

STAFF WRITER

Graduating from college marks the beginning of the long-awaited life in the "real world," and while many young adults focus on establishing themselves in the world—diving into a career, moving away from home, possibly getting married—Clemson alum David Lewis has chosen a different path. This past year, Lewis set aside lofty career goals to join the hundreds who have taken active interest in a campaign for the Invisible Children of Uganda.

The Invisible Children effort began as a creative endeavor by Jason Russell, Bobby Bailey and Laten Poole, three college students from San Diego, Calif. With their cameras at hand, the three traveled to Uganda, where they discovered the violence and disruption caused by the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA).

In hopes of overthrowing the Ugandan government, this insurgent group has taken to kidnap children and forcing them to serve as soldiers. It is rare for those abducted to escape and make it back to their homes as the LRA continually uses violence to frighten the children into submission, often brutally mutilating them in front of one another.

Once returning to the states, Russell, Bailey and Poole used their footage to create the documentary "Invisible Children," and founded Invisible Children, Inc. The organization aims to raise awareness of the Northern Ugandan struggles and offer simple ways people can help solve the crisis.

According to its official Web site, Invisible Children offers "a life-long investment in vulnerable youth. [providing] them with quality education and valuable life skills that enable them to take responsibility for their future and the future of their country."

Lewis, who finished his electrical engineering degree in December of last year, can thank Clemson's Co-op program for first introducing him to the story behind the Invisible Children.

In spring 2006, Lewis worked for a chemical manufacturing plant in Columbia, S.C. After

work one day, Lewis was invited by a friend to a local coffee house, where the "Invisible Children: Rough Cut" edition of the documentary was being shown. Like many who see the film for the first time, Lewis was not sure how to react.

"Honestly, I didn't quite know how to respond to a story of kids walking miles every night to sleep on the ground for fear of their lives," Lewis said. "I didn't know how or even if there was a way, to help."

The Huntsville, Ala., native found it hard to forget the images of the persecuted Ugandan children, but did not want to get caught in the sadness of such a situation.

"Walking away from the film that night was disheartening," remembers Lewis. "I decided to disconnect from those feelings and not deal with them."

A few months later, however, Lewis crossed paths with Invisible Children again. This time, he could not walk away.

In August 2006, Lewis and some friends took a road trip from Seattle to San Diego. Before returning home, Lewis met with a friend who was familiar with the efforts of Invisible Children, Inc., and told Lewis he should try to learn more about the organization.

"We set up an appointment the next day," said Lewis. "I was blown away by the magnitude of the revolution of love and service embodied by the organization. I knew immediately that I would be involved."

After talking with Eric Mecca, a representative at the Invisible Children headquarters, Lewis learned that the organization was preparing for a second National Tour and looking for 50 people to travel the country for four months, live in a 15-passenger van and share the story of the Ugandan children.

Lewis immediately volunteered to join one of the 13 teams and was placed on the Massive Attack team along with three others. From January to April, Lewis is responsible for passing through 13 major U.S. cities from Miami to Chicago.

Many people may find it difficult to understand why a student like Lewis would postpone his promising post-collegiate life to travel the country in a van.

"With only a few semesters remaining in school, I had the painful realization that I was not chasing my dreams," explained Lewis. "I was forcing myself to become someone else. I am

incredibly grateful for the things I learned as a Clemson electrical engineering major, but I want people to find an inspiration to live for something more than a salary."

In addition to traveling the country, Lewis's responsibilities include merchandise inventory and sales, technical maintenance and setup, public speaking, and establishing connections with those he meets on a daily basis.

While Lewis enjoys the day-to-day work involved with Invisible Children, more importantly, he understands the weight of the endeavor.

"I am passionate about giving hope to the lives of the Night Commuter kids in Northern Uganda," said Lewis. "But my main desire lies in showing people in America something worth fighting for. It is important to tell the stories of these kids because so many people are blind to these things around the world."

Lewis plans to officially graduate from Clemson University in August, after completing the Invisible Children National Tour 2007 and the follow-up project in June when he will go to Northern Uganda to meet the children. He hopes to continue working with Invisible Children, pos-

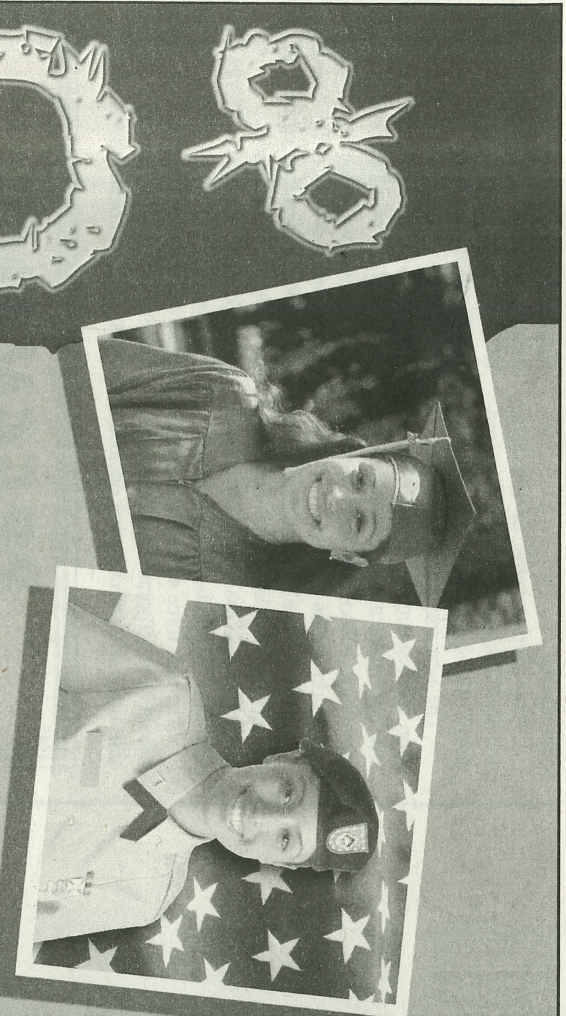
sibly joining founding member Jason Russell on a future World Tour.

In the meantime, Lewis and his teammates will next head to Atlanta for the Displace Me event to be held on Saturday, April 28. In fifteen cities across the nation, thousands of people will gather to experience for themselves the lack of food and water, the disease, and the crowded conditions that Ugandans deal with daily. The event also hopes to be a catalyst for getting the United States government and international community more involved.

Those interested in being a part of the Displace Me initiative should sign up at www.invisiblechildren.com/displaceme.

As Lewis busily prepares to travel to Atlanta, he wants others to know the human aspect of the Invisible Children effort.

"I hope you see the kids in Uganda are more than distant guilt-inducing statistics," said Lewis. "They are our friends and neighbors born into less fortunate circumstances. When your friend falls down, what do you do? You help him up in love and respect. That is what we are trying to do here."



ART FROM THE HEART: This artistic piece represents the people, like David Lewis, who volunteer to help the Invisible Children.



LIZ HUNTER/ assistant photo editor

RELAY: Walkers tread for worthwhile cause *from page A1*

This "pail money" then goes to the American Cancer Society.

On the day of the event, the teams began setting up at noon, and then the ceremonies kicked off at 5 p.m. Various bands played until 9 p.m., when the luminary ceremony began.

These luminaries were bought in honor of individual cancer victims and lit by volunteers to represent their dedication to the victims.

As the night went on, other forms of entertainment were presented, including a performance by the Rally Cats and the student improv comedy group, Mock Turtle Soup.

There was also a Greek God and Goddess "beauty pageant" involving both males and females, along with other fun to help keep volunteers awake.

Becoming a member of Relay for Life is not difficult because of the need for volunteers.

For Register, family ties made it easy for her to decide that she wanted to play a large role in Relay for Life.

"My uncle passed away last year with leukemia," Register said. "I didn't know a lot about the disease before then, but it affects so many people, and Relay for Life helps raise money to find a cure."

All proceeds from Relay for Life go to benefit research conducted by the American Cancer Society.

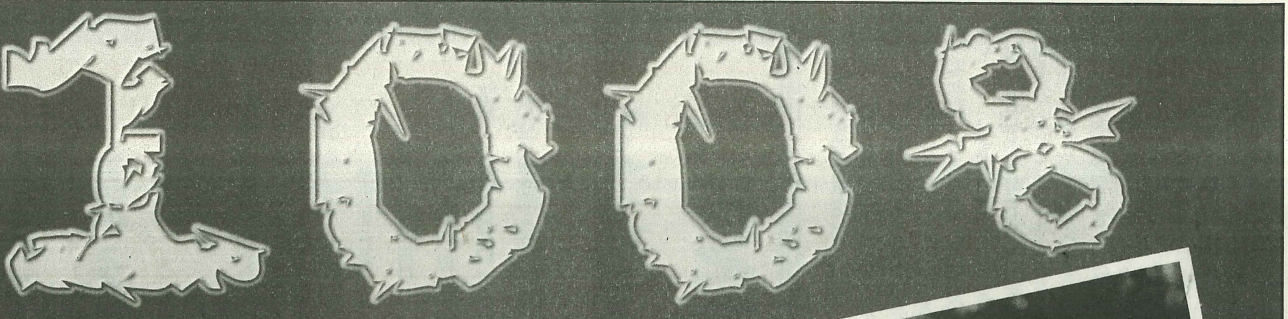
These proceeds also provide scholarships for children who have survived childhood cancer, and

fund camps and support groups related to cancer.

The work that goes into planning this annual event takes most of the school year.

"The board started meeting in September of 2006, and we have meetings every week from that point on," Register said. The main committee appointed subcommittees including publicity, advocacy, faculty, cooperate, entertainment, technical, luminary and survivor support.

"From there we begin to decide how to publicize the event and work on finding people to help us achieve that goal."



Tuition cost shouldn't keep you from reaching your goals in life. By joining the Army National Guard you'll receive the money you need to pay for college as well as the skills and training you need to get the career you want. If you're wanting to get through college, with the Army National Guard, you can!

- Montgomery GI Bill
- GI Bill Kicker
- Student Loan Repayment Program
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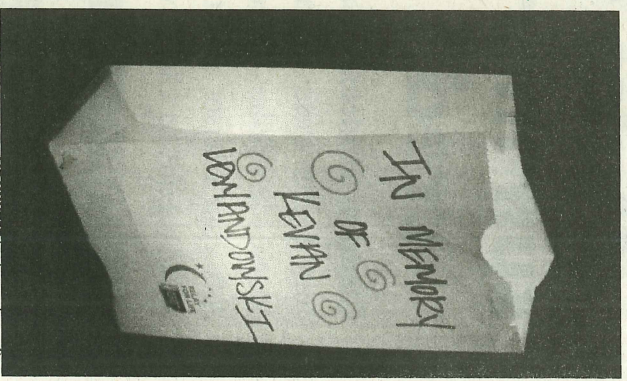
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LIZ HUNTER/ assistant photo editor

LUMINARY WORK: A candle is lit for all who have passed.

TIGER BRIEFS



Freeride Club Sponsors Event in Clemson

The Clemson Freeride Club is hosting a Downhill Race on April 21. The event will be held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Holly Springs campground, which is located in Clemson's experimental forest. The president of the Freeride Club, Jonathan Howlette, said that the brand new trail that was completed two weeks ago. The trail features everything from jumps and berms to wall rides and drops. Howlette, a senior mechanical engineering major, said that the event is open to anyone with a bike who wants to experience "the most exhilarating three minutes the Clemson area has to offer." He and his teammates expect about two hundred people to come to the race. Red Bull and other vendors will be on site.

"Strut Your Mutt" in the Botanical Gardens

On Saturday, April 21, Clemson's parks, recreation, and tourism management department is hosting "Strut Your Mutt" in the South Carolina Botanical Gardens. The event consists of a Los Bravos obstacle course, animal demonstrations from Pickens County Sheriff's Department and "Doggie Discipline" demonstrations. Additionally, prizes will be awarded for the biggest, smallest, best-dressed, best talent, looks-most-like-owner and oldest-looking dogs. Proceeds

from the event will go to benefit local animal shelters. Registration is \$10 with a maximum of \$25 per family of five until April 20. On the day of registration, the fee is \$15 with a maximum of \$35 per family of five. Registration begins at 9:30 a.m., and the events, and contests begin at 10 a.m. The walk starts at 11 a.m., and lunch will be provided for the registered owners.

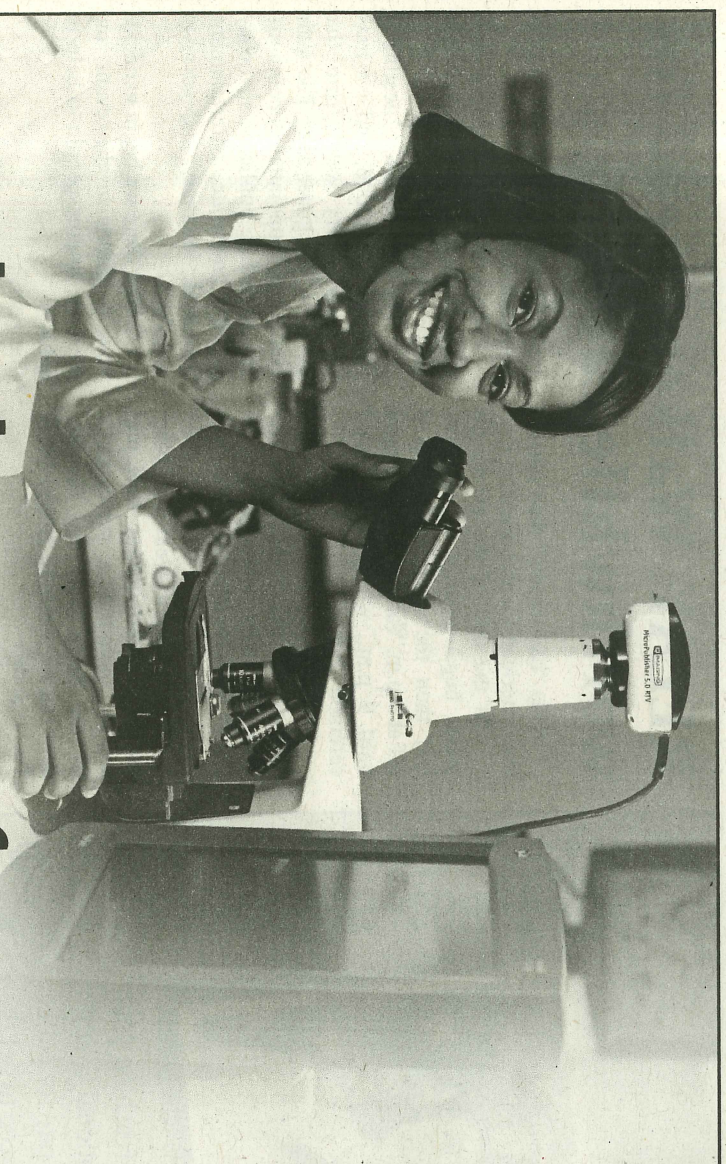
Clemson Students, Employees Participate in Take Back the Night

Clemson students and employees will join together in the Third Annual Take Back the Night 5K run on Friday, April 20. The race, which starts at 6 p.m., is part of an international movement to raise money for promoting awareness of domestic violence and sexual assault in the local area. The on-campus course begins at the Hendrix Student Center and ends at the Outdoor Theater. Registration is \$12 for individuals and \$7 per person in groups of seven or more. Forms are available at <http://people.clemson.edu/~shac/bttn07/Home.html>. Participants also have the opportunity to register from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. on the day of the race at Redfern Health Center. Part of the race proceeds will benefit the Foothills Alliance Rape Crisis Center and the Pickens County Rape Crisis council. Signs indicating statistics on

domestic violence and sexual assault will be placed alongside the course to educate women on issues such as non-stranger rape. After the run, participants can enjoy a performance by the Recycled Percussion at the Outdoor Theater.

Endowments present

University with advanced program Clemson University presented the Endowed Chair Medallion to Todd H. Hubing, the holder of the Michelin Endowed Chair in Vehicular Electronic Systems Integration and faculty member of the department of electrical and computer engineering, on Friday, April 13. John C. Ziegert, holder of the Tinkin Endowed Chair in Automotive Design and Development and faculty member of the department of mechanical engineering also received the award. The endowed chair members are part of the faculty to be placed in the Carroll A. Campbell Graduate Engineering Center at the Clemson International Center for Automotive Research in Greenville. Clemson University President James F. Barker presented a medallion to representatives of Michelin and Tinkin, which are the companies that made the endowments possible. Barker said Clemson successfully searched for the right people to fill the chairs and to lead Clemson's innovative and unique academic programs in automotive engineering.



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Student-athletes face adjustments

University officials step up to enforce new regulations for admission processes.

MARGARET FARISH

STAFF WRITER

A university task force released a report April 11 recommending several changes in the admissions procedures for student-athletes.

President Barker formed the Presidential Task Force Feb. 22 after public outcry from athletics supporters that Clemson could be losing athletes to competing universities.

Fans' anger was specifically directed at an incident in February when two football recruits were denied entrance into Clemson.

The AARC denied two highly reputed football recruits, Jo Jo Cox and Dwight Jones, entrance into Clemson two months ago because the committee feared the recruits would be unable to graduate.

In response to public criticism, the task force, comprising of athletic director Terry Don Phillips, provost Doris Helms, assistant head football coach Dabo Swinney, associate head basketball coach Ron Bradley, president of the faculty senate Charlie Gooding and dean of undergraduate studies Jan Murdoch, reviewed the current admission procedures for student-athletes in order to find ways to improve Clemson's academic integrity and athletic competitiveness.

After two months of reviewing and troubleshooting, the task force proposed two major procedural changes. The first recommendation was to keep the issuance of letters-of-intent, sent out before a potential athlete finishes high school, separate from the actual admissions process.

The task force's second recommendation was to add NCAA-developed graduation success rates and academic rates into the admissions processes. The task force said that those rates should be incorporated into the admission director's formula that decides if

student-athlete applicants can appeal to the AARC for acceptance into Clemson.

Other recommendations included shifting the deadlines for submission of admissions materials for international student-athletes, adding a staff member in admissions and a learning specialist in Vickery Hall (the student-athlete academic support center) to handle increased workloads related to supporting the needs of student-athletes, and appointing an athletics representative as a non-voting member of the AARC.

The university and athletics will jointly fund these new positions.

Barker said the university will implement these suggestions in the future admissions processes.

"The changes recommended by the task force will give our coaches a level playing field in the competitive world of athletic recruiting while protecting academic integrity," said Barker.

"The procedures they have outlined accomplish three things.

First, they clearly leave admissions decisions in the hands of the academic community. Second, they accommodate the national schedule for signing letters-of-intent. And third, they create incentives for coaches to work hard at retaining and graduating student-athletes, which is our ultimate goal."

So far, the athletic community agrees with the task force's recommendations, and football coach Tommy Bowden thanked the task force members for their hard work.

"All sports at Clemson will benefit from the admission principles released and will allow us to compete on a level playing field with the other BCS institutions who strive to win championships with academic integrity," he said in a statement to the press.

Athletics director Terry Don Phillips said that it is exciting for the athletic department to be able to recruit student-athletes in the same way as other ACC and SEC universities.



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Students honor Lent, give up the goods

The battle to fight indulgence faces many people during Easter season.

BETSY BARROWS

STAFF WRITER

The long awaited day of deliverance is here at last. From chocolate to Facebook to alcohol, students all over the country and here at Clemson are reuniting once more with foods, drinks and habits they gave up over the past six weeks in observation of the Lent season.

Each year, Mardi-Gras, a French phrase which translates to "Fat Tuesday," marks a time when many people can indulge themselves one last time before choosing to observe a 40 day fast of some sort.

The fast ends on Easter Sunday.

The Lent season often times ends for many in much the same way it begins: with indulgence, that is.

After all, 40 days is a long time to refrain from a particular lifestyle pattern.

"I definitely splurged on chocolate after Lent," said Jane Marie Edwards, a senior studying business management. "No, I did not cheat once. I went 40 days without chocolate. It was torture."

"I gave up the one thing which is nearly impossible for me to live without--sweet tea," said Beth Simmons, a senior studying Communications. "And yes, I miraculously lasted 40 days without it."

But where does this funny practice of abstinence for a 40 day period come from?

The history of Lent dates all the way to the fourth century A.D.

In the early Christian church, Lent served as a time period for new believers to receive their final phase of intense instruction before their baptism or confirmation.

The duration of time for this instruction was set to 40 days to correlate with the same amount of time that Christians believe Jesus Christ fasted in the wilderness, marking the beginning of his earthly ministry.

The origin of the word Lent is somewhat obscure.

Many believe it derives from the Old English word "lencethen" or "lengthen", since the Lent season traditionally takes place during a time of year when our days are "lengthened" because of more daylight hours during the spring time.

Lent customs vary on an individual and sometimes denominational basis.

The Catholic Church considers only Ash Wednesday, Good Friday and all Fridays during Lent as fasting days.

On these days, those who practice Catholicism refrain from eating meat.

Historically, this abstinence first took place as a means to help unify those who could not afford meat with those who could.

The Lent tradition has evolved into a type of custom which is unique and specific to each individual who observes Lent.

Some who practice Catholicism participate in an additional fast rather than refraining only from eating meat.

Although Sundays during the Lent season are traditionally "non-fasting" days, some students still choose to fast on those days.

"It's more of a challenge that way," commented one student who asked to remain anonymous.

For some students, the act of personal sacrifice during the Lent season is not so miserable.

"The whole reason I give up something for Lent is not necessarily to deprive myself, but to use that time when I crave that particular something to instead consciously think and reflect on Christ's sacrifice for me," Senior Guy Chapman said.

"I wanted to focus daily on

what Easter means to me by giving up something which I knew I devoted a lot of mental and emotional energy to," said Chelsea Lesniewski, a senior studying health science. "So I chose to give up surfing the internet after 10 p.m."

Lesniewski said that the book "Blue Like Jazz" was very influential in helping her decide what to give up for Lent.

"The opening lines really convey that sometimes the most dangerous thing we can do is 'waste

our time,'" Lesniewski said. "For me, I feel that I waste too much time surfing the internet at night, when I could be doing something more resourceful instead."

Regardless of what students choose to give up for Lent, the personal challenge of daily sacrifice, in the end, is deserving of a reward. Easter delivers it.

But for many students who choose to observe Lent year after year, as the ancient and familiar proverb suggests, "the journey is the reward."

What did you give up for Lent this year?

Question and Answer

"I didn't give up anything for Lent. Some people feel like they are sacrificing a part of themselves for God by giving up something, but I've never really felt that way so I don't usually give stuff up for Lent."

Chris Conley
Civil Engineering
Sophomore

"I'm a huge fan of breakfast, so I actually gave up biscuits, gravy and Belgian waffles."

Ashley Palermo
Secondary Education
Sophomore

"I gave up kissing my boyfriend for Lent because it is an incredibly difficult thing to do, and I wanted to see if I was strong enough to make it through."

Jenna Harper
English
Sophomore



NOT THE CHOCOLATE!: One of the most popular things that students give up for Lent are sweets.

Step It Up Rally paves way for planet progress

Students and faculty gather to make a statement in support of the environment.

JENNIFER SALANE ROSS KUCSERA

STAFF WRITERS

More than 350 environmentally-conscious people met at the Strom Thurmond Institute behind the library for Clemson's Step It Up rally this past Saturday, April 14.

The main goal of Step It Up is to call on Congress to cut carbon dioxide emissions 80 percent by the year 2050.

At the rally on Saturday attendees signed petitions that will be sent to Congress along with a photograph of the event.

"I was very pleased with the turnout," said Les Grady, Clemson University's R. A. Bowen Professor Emeritus of environmental engineering and science.

"We advertised the event on campus and in town, hoping to get both townspeople and Clemson students. We wanted to show that people of all ages are concerned about the future of our environment."

Recent polls show that the interest among college students is higher than it is among older people.

"We wanted to make the point that a broad spectrum of people care," Grady said.

"I think we succeeded in doing that because the ages ranged from children to retired people. I was also very relieved that it didn't rain."

The speakers topics ranged from the anthropogenic causes of global warming to specifically what the Clemson administration is doing to limit the university's environmental impact.

President Barker is on track to sign up Clemson for the Campus Climate Pledge check.

Rally-goers were also able to enjoy the excellent sounds of local band Swift Robinson, who provided the soundtrack for the day's events.

The event featured speakers Brad Wyche, Executive Director of Upstate Forever; Alan Elizerman, Coordinator of the Clemson University Sustainable Universities Initiative and Laura Ceva, President of the CU chapter of Students for Environmental Awareness.

Also, each Step It Up rally around the country had its own theme and idea for a creative photograph of their supporters.

"We hope our senators and representatives will support efforts to put the United States of America on a path to reduce its emissions of greenhouse gases," Grady said.

"Exactly how that is done will be determined by the political process, but we wanted to show support for the need."

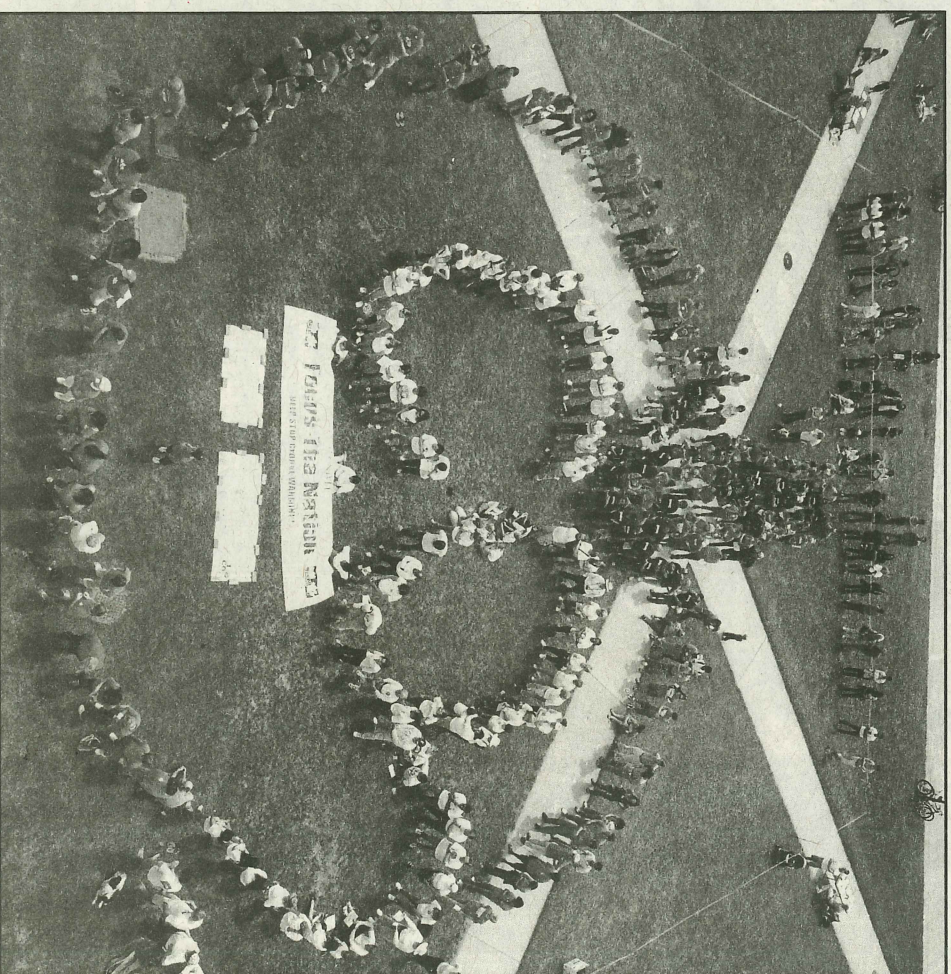
"The important thing at this point, however, is to start discussions on making significant reductions," Grady said.

"Even though I will not be around in 50 years, I do not want my granddaughter to say, 'Yes, my grandfather thought that global warming was caused by humans, but he didn't do anything about it.'"

The event was sponsored by the School of the Environment. Students for

Environmental Awareness, Engineers without Borders, Focus the Nation and the Green Sanctuary Committee of Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Clemson, and

was one of more than 1400 events that took place around the country on Saturday, April 14 as part of the National Day of Climate Action.



ALL TOGETHER NOW: Participants form the letters "CO2" to represent the goal of lowering the levels of carbon dioxide production.

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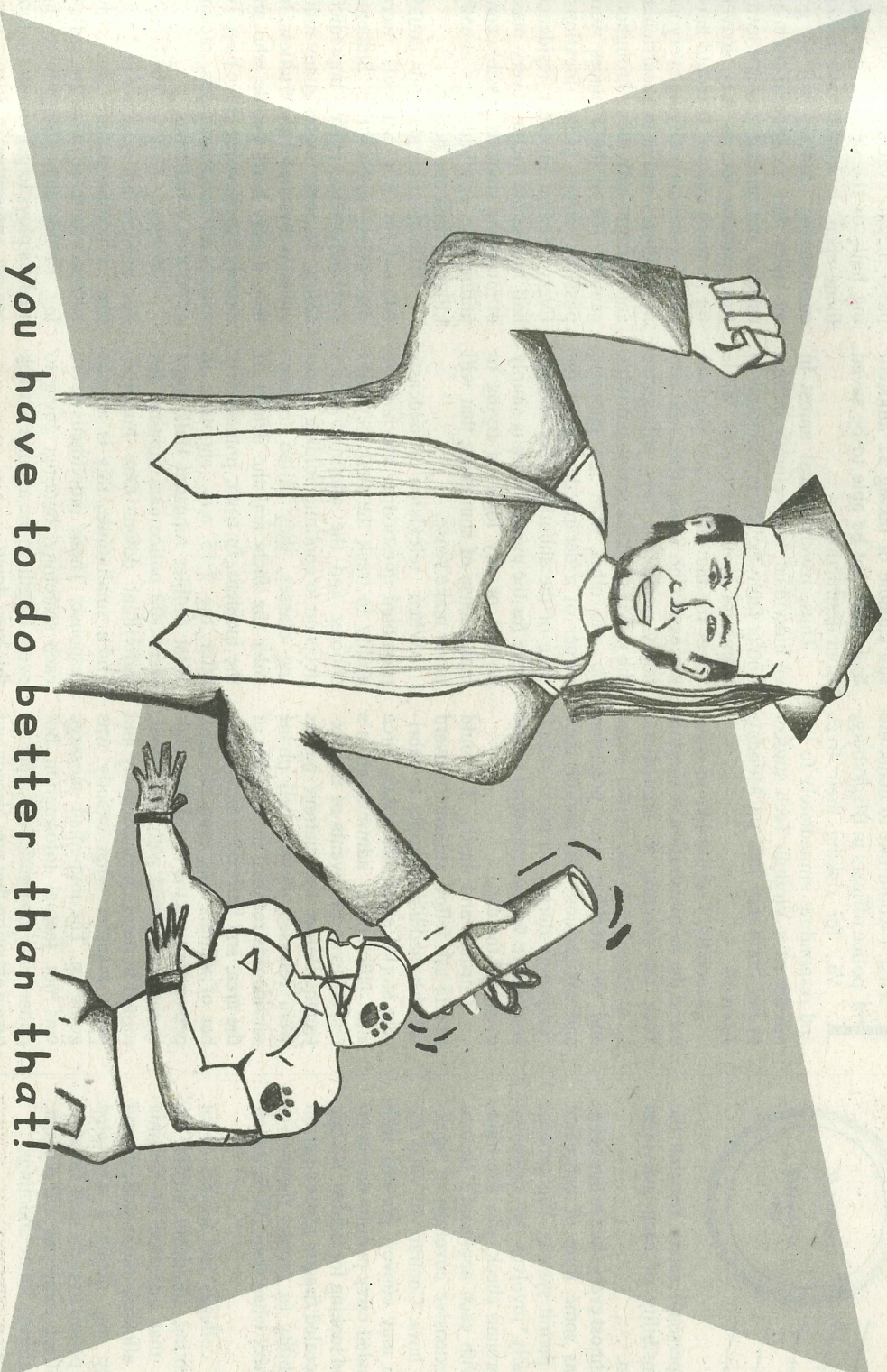
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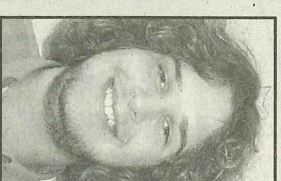
PERSPECTIVES

Academic integrity takes hard hit



SPEAKING

Should Clemson academics relax its standards to gain more competitive athletics?



Brandon Hudson
Industrial management
sophomore

"No. We shouldn't allow sub-standard athletes if we want to be a top 20 school."



Zach Berg
Health science
sophomore

"No. If we want to be top 20 in the nation, we can't sacrifice academics for athletic game."



Alex Padgett
Mechanical engineering
freshman

"You can easily do sports and have good grades."



Kelsey Sontag
Finance
sophomore



Robert Stephenson
Biomedical engineering
junior

"No. I think we can have a great athletic program with good academics, as well."



Ryan Wilson
Psychology
senior

Clemson has had its share of football controversy lately.

When the Athletic Admissions Review Committee determined that Dwight Jones, one of the highest rated players in Clemson's recruitment class, was not eligible to attend Clemson University, the ensuing stink could be smelled from here to Chapel Hill.

There is no denying that Clemson is imbued with a football culture — it's in the water. From its infant days on Bowman Field to its colossal establishment in Death Valley, the football program has dominated a good portion of our University's identity. We bleed orange (and sometimes purple). How could we not? Fall semester Saturdays are almost religious: They are weekly festivals of tailgating and untainted tradition for which everyone must dress appropriately and remember the words. We taste that tradition every time we speak about our football, and we sense that here, in our team, is something valuable. Here is something worth protecting.

Therefore, when the news got out that Dwight Jones had been rejected because of grades, much of the Clemson community rose up to "protect."

They protected the right for a college coaching staff to pick its players and not be hamstrung by an administration.

They protected Dwight Jones' right to play football wherever he wants.

They even tried to protect against the University of North Carolina picking up the recruits that we let go.

They "protected" all over the Internet, all over the state and

right up to President Barker's doorstep, hoping that someone from the administration would see the "obvious" problem.

The outrage was deafening but, apparently, ineffective. On April 13, Clemson University issued a report "recommending changes in its procedures for admitting student-athletes." The report was generated by a committee that was formed just weeks after the beginning of the controversy in February — interesting timing. This committee's goal was "to review existing procedures and recommend improvements to ensure academic integrity, athletic competitiveness, and full compliance with NCAA certification."

Essentially, the administration responded to the protest by giving an inch. But how big is their inch?

The revisions to the athletic admissions policies allow for greater "flexibility" in the admissions process. This flexibility comes in the form of a "sliding scale." Meaning what?

The scale is subjective. Based on how proficiently the school or team graduates players, coaches and administrators now have the ability to recruit athletes who were before considered inadmissible.

One cannot help but take a step back, ponder a moment and ask this question: How did we

get here? Let's review.

In February, the AARC rejected a potential football recruit on the grounds of academic merit. To be more exact, it was a 670 SAT score and a 2.25 GPA that tilted the scales slightly against him. Because of the young athlete's outstanding scouting reports, however, the AARC's decision was ridiculed as foolish and ignorant. After all, isn't one of President Barker's Top 20 initiatives to win a national football championship? And, in the big picture, isn't one more stellar athlete far more

valuable than one poor SAT score?

The offended party (which seemed to be Clemson's entire football community) disregarded arguments about intellectual integrity and academic culture, saying that Clemson culture is football: What other culture do we have here in South Carolina?

They have a point. Historically, we have been known as a football school. We have also been known as a military school, a purely agricultural school, and a school without a graduate degree program. We're not those things anymore, but we have been known as them.

When a university sets its academic limitations and regulations, when it sets goals to better the quality of the education it provides, it should stick to its

Granted, it is sometimes more than difficult to do this in the face of contemporary education, especially in that hallowed realm of athletics.

When one school drops a prospective athlete in the name of academic integrity and another school picks that prospect up, the first school can end up looking a little silly and self-righteous... especially when UNC is the school that is doing the "picking up." People start saying things like "If he was good enough for them, he should be good enough for us!"

But what is silly about wanting to improve the academic standing of an academic institution?

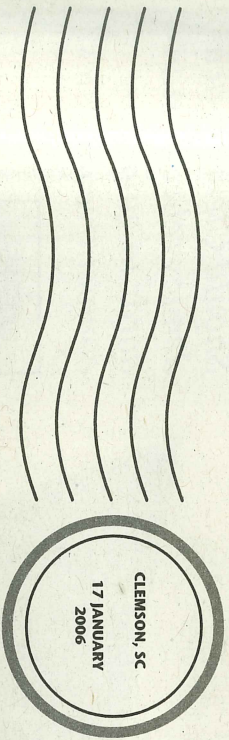
Clemson University is a university first, before anything else. Saying that Clemson is only a football school is a dangerous ledge upon which to perch, for one stiff breeze can send us flailing downward toward mediocrity and away from excellence. We want to be more than just a football school. We are more than just a football school.

Besides, what UNC does is its own business (and its own mistake). The decision that Clemson administrators made concerning Dwight Jones was a legitimate one, and it should comfort Clemson students everywhere that such systems are in place. High standards only serve to increase the value of our degree and, in the long run, the value of a beloved university.

The opinions expressed in the above editorial are written by the opinions editor and represent the majority opinion of The Tiger editorial board. In representing the majority view, the staff editorials may not represent the individual view of any particular member.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters should be no longer than 400 words. Feedback from our Website may also be considered for publication. Submissions must include the author's name and phone number (or e-mail address) and optionally hometown, class and major. All submissions will be checked for authenticity and may be edited for clarity and grammar. Space considerations may result in submissions being held for later publication. THE TIGER reserves the right to print or edit all submissions. Send letters to our U.S. Mail address or e-mail them to letters@TheTigerNews.com.



Take a lesson from Israel

In the wake of the tragic events that occurred this week on the Virginia Tech campus, I found myself thinking about what could stop these school shootings from happening. My thoughts turned to a country that has many similarities to the United States, Israel. How many school shootings have you heard about in Israel? None? Why is that? It is because teachers in Israel who have gone through the process of getting a concealed weapons permit are allowed to carry their firearms in the classroom. As soon as terrorists started getting shot when attempting to take over schools, the attacks on the schools stopped.

While police departments are vital entities to any community, police officers provide a reactionary service. They are not always around when a crime is being committed. Until colleges can prevent any and all incidents that threaten students or employees on cam-

pus, personal safety remains the responsibility of each individual person.

Almost every state in this country has some form of concealed carry permit system. This process normally involves an extensive background check, live fire training with each applicant's firearm and extensive coverage of applicable laws. Contrary to what the media may convey, persons with concealed carry permits do not go around looking for trouble. Having a concealed firearm gives a person the ability to protect themselves or others when their life is threatened.

If colleges are serious about preventing incidents similar to those that occurred at Virginia Tech, allowing those students and faculty who obtain a concealed carry permit to carry their firearms on college campuses will prevent, or minimize, future shootings.

Jordan Smith
student

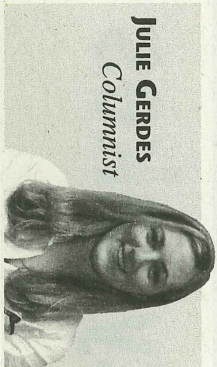
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COMMENTARY

Why we shouldn't spin it



JULIE GERDES
Columnist

First, I would like to thank the police officers in Blacksburg, Va., for risking their lives and responding immediately to the murder of a Virginia Tech student in her dormitory hall on Monday, April 16.

Secondly, I would like to commend the administration at Virginia Tech for reacting as immediately as possible to the initial scene and for working with precision and compassion, maintaining their composure during a time in which composure was as unnatural as the events of the day.

Thirdly, and lastly, I would like to ask fellow students to ward off the media's attempts to fabricate stories about the police force and University administration's responses to the events of the sixteenth. Before the victims' names were released, before cell phone service was restored to residents of the area, and before the final number of victims was even released, persons around the world, especially those affiliated with the school, turned to news channels to try and piece together what exactly was going on. The immediate message was not factual information but rather unsympathetic attempts to turn a situation that was already out of hand into a political issue.

No one could have predicted the tragedy of the day for which we are all still mourning. There are never enough "warning signs" to predict a random, violent act of humanity. While being responsible and reporting abnormal behavior of friends and classmates as well as implementing security procedures is called for in any institution, some things cannot be prevented.

We all feel like we can identify a person of the "loner" stereotype or think we can tell when

something is wrong with someone. Often, we overlook the hunches. We don't think twice about it, and if we do, we don't do much about it. Of our available options, the best choice of action around someone that seems like they feel alienated is to offer friendship and peacefulness to this person. Even so, a person capable of taking 32 innocent lives may not be able to be saved from destruction.

Thus, psychological unrest in an individual, not a clumsy institution or faulty policy, is ultimately to blame for Monday's events. While I feel for the family and acquaintances of Cho Seung-Hui, who certainly could not have anticipated the mayhem of the spring morning, no one other than the gunman, owner of a deranged mind at the time of the shooting, was responsible for the event. There is simply no use or any logic in trying to make sense of something that will never make sense.

When television broadcastists promoted questioning the police's ability to track the first incident's shooter and the administration's decision to continue holding morning classes, they failed to consider the facts and the details of the incident. In truth, immediately after the 7:15 a.m. shooting in West Ambler Johnston Hall, there were 100 police cars hunting this individual down. One hundred. For a small town, this is a huge response. These individuals were each searching, hunting, going to every length, in the attempt to track this man down.

We can all speculate about what might have happened and how actions could have been different, but in the particular case of the first shooting, as Tech's president, Charles Steger articulated, "I don't think anyone could have predicted that another event was going to take place two hours later."

I think it's important to keep in mind the situation that the administration was faced with after the initial attack. The majority of students live off-campus. Seung-Hui, living in the particularly nice suite-style an obvious liberal slant. But they wouldn't know through true investigative journalism the whole stories of either candidate, like Obama's vote in favor of HR 3199, a bill that in 2006 allowed the FBI to conduct "roving wiretaps" and made 14 of the provisions of the Patriot Act permanent. Likewise, they probably also do not know Hillary Clinton has no plans to withdraw all of the military from Iraq or Afghanistan upon her election.

On the other side of the aisle, if we wanted to go through and examine every vote then we could probably find some interesting ones there. The point, however, is that even if the media has stumbled onto a story that is relevant, the political slants of the news channels effectively prevent the media from doing the job that it is supposed to do, especially on cable channels.

The job is simple: Investigate and report.

The effect can be seen in printed media as well. Columnists bicker through flawed logic or otherwise force their poorly researched opinions through newspapers. Astute readers can even find bias in those who appear to be simply reporting

and mostly upperclassman Harper Hall, was an exception to the norm. Residence Halls are on the opposite side, across the drill field from most academic buildings.

Immediately canceling class via email would result in large amounts of students traveling from one side of campus to the other. It would have meant evacuations of dining halls or the decision to keep them open. It would have meant encouraging students not to get on buses that transported them to campus and turning students away from parking lots as they arrived for morning classes. It would have meant somehow notifying everyone in the library and in extracurricular and leisure activities throughout campus. All of these places were possible crime scene locations: Every resident in every residence hall a possible victim, every mass of migrating students possibly containing the criminal who already killed at least one person.

Officials did all they could. Alerted or not, students were defenseless against this. Students were defenseless against unpredictability. To point fingers at any individual is distasteful and fruitless. In fact, it only hurts people who are already experiencing grave pain. To react with pointed fingers, racism or politics is ludicrous.

Therefore, it is in everyone's best interest that we react in a way that is compassionate and sympathetic to those who are suffering. Rather than giving in to the media's ploys to get viewers to turn against authorities in Blacksburg, we should give our compassion to all members of the Blacksburg community, including authorities. I urge all members of our community to realize that Virginia Tech is not so different from us. Please help the Hokies recover. Don't make healing any more difficult by alienating a place and individual persons who share many of the defining qualities of our own institution.

JULIE GERDES is a sophomore studying English. E-mail comments to letters@TheTigerNews.com.

Journalists and media titans a dying breed

BRYAN COCKFIELD

Guest Columnist

The American news media networks were known in their prime by faces of iconic anchors such as Tom Brokaw and Peter Jennings who had teams of reporters in every major area of the world. Now, there are few credible names in American news, and the only foreign departments that most of the major American networks run are in London, to give Americans the impression that they are independently reporting foreign news.

What can account for the decline? With escalating crises in Africa, Korea, the Middle East and the Russian Federation that directly impact the United States, this massive media meltdown is occurring in spite of the need that Americans have to stay informed on the most basic issues.

One cause is that most major news services now answer to profit. They cut funding and abandon their foreign bureaus because they assume no one in America cares about news abroad. The

news they do give, mostly from the Middle East, is actually footage shot by either an independent reporter or another news company (such as Reuters or Al Jazeera) that American news companies have dubbed over with their anchors' voices. The stories they actually "uncover" are found in independent blogs.

Whatever the cause, the effects are disastrous. The news media was in the unconscious process of "dumbing down" throughout the 80s and 90s, and after 9/11 no major news outlet asked the administration the questions that needed to be asked. They lacked the expertise and moral fiber to question policies that resulted from an attack on the US.

9/11 essentially put the final nail in the coffin. No journalist now has the integrity or drive to question a policy like the USA Patriot Act as long as it is in the interests of "national security."

Now, the press secretary is able to manipulate what the American public hears about in the goings-on of government. The administration can essentially do what it wishes without the watchdog of the media hounding it at every step.

COMMENTARY

In the 1970s, the news media reported what was needed and was essentially responsible via the Pentagon Papers for bringing about the end of the Vietnam War and for the resignation of Richard Nixon via investigative journalism of the Watergate scandal.

The problem is not that the news media doesn't report on scandal or questionable practices of the administration. The problem is that the news media lacks the expertise to know what is good, what is bad, and what is irrelevant. There are news shows on both sides of the political spectrum that compartmentalize news for the sake of their audience because the producers think they will get better ratings by pandering to people of one political orientation or another.

This means that there is essentially no difference between watching the O'Reilly Factor and watching the Daily Show. Neither show does its own reporting, and the anchors only infuse their political views in an otherwise ignorant audience.

For example, a supporter of Barack Obama or Hillary Clinton for president would probably watch the Daily Show because it has

What's the solution? Professional journalists could start by reporting for a publication that nobody reads to give them the pluck to learn not to report for ratings.

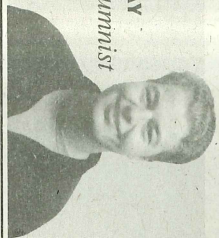
As for The Tiger, I would be happy to be the press delegate to the White House press conferences. Although this is my first piece in a widely read publication, I probably have more experience now than most of the journalists who are in Washington right now.

BRYAN COCKFIELD is a junior studying electrical engineering. E-mail comments to letters@TheTigerNews.com.

COMMENTARY

Focus on ties that make a community

BRANDON HATHAWAY
Columnist



I was offered space for a final column a few days ago to say goodbye to the paper and to the campus that has been my home for the past two years or so. I said OK before a college student decided to make diabolical history on the campus of Virginia Tech, before the Hokies went from a hated sports rival to people who, when they arrive in Death Valley next year, will be shown a little extra helping of Clemson hospitality.

I have only been to Blacksburg once. It was on a tour that was visiting possible places for grad school, the tour that eventually led me here. The entire city, much like Clemson, is almost completely wrapped up in the school. It's a pretty little town, where the gray uniformity of the Hokie stone buildings gives the unmistakably erudite feel of a university, while the consistent effort of drivers on campus to stop for pedestrians, even when they were not at a crosswalk, made me feel welcome.

Universities are interesting like that. There is an unusual combination of family and anonymity that binds every student who attends. There are people who work in the same building I do who I've never met, but when I got home and wear my orange, I'm not surprised anymore to hear a "Go Tigers!" from a stranger in Florida.

While universities usually do a pretty good job of fostering that sense of family, it is still easy to get lost in the anonymity and to lose people in it.

This one college student, who got so far lost in that anonymity, finally found a way to escape it forever. April 16 will be one of those horrible dates that people in Virginia remember for the rest of their lives, stained forever with the corrupted memory of this student who would have otherwise been forgotten.

Hopefully, the memory will not be restricted to just Virginians, for this is one of those horrible days where the evil ought not be forgotten. We owe it to the victims,

people like Jarrett Lane and Juan Ortiz, who, if given the chance, may have gone on to be remembered for something less tragic. Or Professor Liviu Librescu, whose last action was to block the door of his classroom with his body in an effort to allow his students a better chance to escape danger. It is moving to read about heroism like that but awful that it must be revealed in such a tragic circumstance.

It is also awful that this will inevitably be co-opted by political activists trying to take advantage of the death of 33 members of the Virginia Tech family to push some sort of agenda.

It has started already; go read the letters to the editor in the New York Times or Washington Post on this event. There are volleys being fired back and forth about how we need more gun control or more guns, depending on the writer's point of view.

There are questions that will need to be raised, of course, but not yet. It is not fair for parents and wives and husbands to hear things like claims that the administration should've been able to stop this madman, especially with as much information as has come out so far. It is still time for grieving, and there is likely nothing that would have been able to prevent this. It was, unfortunately, one of those heartbreaking days where nothing makes sense.

So what we can do is work in good faith to try to enhance the sense of family while minimizing that anonymity.

We can pray for those in Virginia whom this has directly affected, the parents throughout the world who lost children on April 16, Virginia Tech as a school and colleges in general. We can offer our condolences to a friend in need. We can continue to smile at strangers and say hi.

Those are the things that we can take away from this. We should be vigilant, but not at the expense of the sense of community that makes places like Clemson, South Carolina and Blacksburg, Virginia the places that they are. Places to which it is hard to say goodbye.

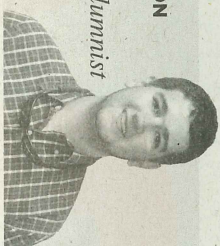
BRANDON HATHAWAY is a graduate student studying mechanical engineering. E-mail comments to letters@TheTigerNews.com.

CARTOONS



Fruitless visitation

BRANDON JONES
Columnist



Nancy Pelosi's recent escapades in the Middle East have caused a major uproar in Washington and the rest of the country. Earlier this month, the newly elected Speaker of the House took a little trip to Damascus to talk with the leader of Syria about problems concerning their support for militant groups and the like. What normally would be considered the standard Middle East trip (peace talks that go nowhere, tours of military bases, etc.) completely backfired on Pelosi and has now turned into a seemingly grave political blunder.

For some time now, the United States has refused to even talk with Syria, citing that its government supports the militant groups Hezbollah and Hamas and is actually making the situation in Iraq worse because it allows Sunni insurgents to operate within its borders. I think it is safe to assume that the United States is on less than cordial terms with Syria. Nevertheless, Pelosi decided to go over there. It seems to me that the only thing that was accomplished by her trip was the undermining of the Bush Administration's foreign policy. The president has a lot of power when it comes to foreign policy and even gets to appoint a Secretary of State to actually convey that policy around the world.

No one can know for certain what Pelosi's motives were for going on this trip, except for Pelosi herself, of course. However, it looks to me like she was trying to send a message to the leader of Syria—a message of "just hold out for a year and a half more, and everything will be okay." I am not much of a conspiracy theorist, but Pelosi's trip seems like a blatant disregard for the current administration and its efforts to orchestrate a hard-nosed stance regarding Syria.

President Bush touted Pelosi's trip as "counterproductive" and said that it was sending mixed signals to President Bashar Assad's government. Granted, a lot of Congressmen and women take overseas trips in efforts to have peaceful talks with foreign diplomats and heads-of-state. But, in a time when the United

States has pretty much frozen talks with high-ranking contacts within Syria, Pelosi's trip is a bit out of place. What's worse is that Pelosi relayed a false message to Assad, saying that Israel was ready for peace talks. Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert later asked Pelosi to clarify her message, instead insisting that Israel would be willing to talk if, and only if, Syria terminated its support for terrorist organizations.

Did Pelosi cross the line by visiting President Assad in Syria? A number of politicians from both parties are denouncing her trip as dangerous and somewhat ill timed. Her trip was a bad move. What did it accomplish, anyway? President Assad knows Israel will probably not talk to him unless his country stops its support for Hezbollah and Hamas. And the same goes for the United States.

Why did Pelosi feel the need to reiterate that point? Why did she feel the need to play the role of Secretary of State? Most would agree that being Speaker of the House entails enough responsibility as it is. There is no sense in adding a foreign policy liaison aspect to your occupation. Run the House of Representatives; that is all we ask. Don't try to be the political hero of the day and attempt to resolve any bad blood that exists between the United States and Syria. In reality, that is easier said than done.

What Nancy Pelosi needs to do is sit back and let the foreign policy analysts of the Bush administration do their duty. We are not going to talk to Syria unless it stops supporting terrorist organizations. Period. If you don't like it, tough! A hard-nosed stance is exactly what we need. Going over there to reiterate our policy is not going to accomplish much, if anything. As one of the leaders of a political party that has been harping about nonpartisanship, I find Pelosi's recent trip to be very ironic and extremely fishy.

On a lighter note, I would like to point out that this is the last article I will be contributing to "The Tiger." For some, that is a relief. Nevertheless, I have enjoyed letting my opinions be known. I hope that, in the future, everyone will have enough sense to separate what's genuine and practical from what's shady and ridiculous in politics. Thanks for reading!

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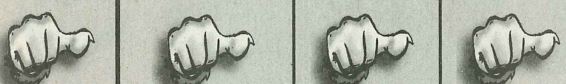
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Feel like gambling? An online gambling service is now taking bets on global warming and the places that will be under water first.

A homeless man is running for mayor of Naperville, Illinois. His platform: Reforming the system that made him homeless.

There is still good in the world: A Florida thief stopped his robbery when he realized that the clerk was having a heart attack. He even told her to call 911.

A man distributed lewd stickers of his ex-girlfriend. He was charged with felony harassment and sentenced to four months.

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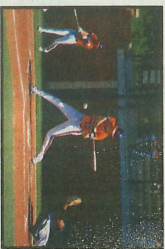
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Tigers take two of three from Wake, C6

SPORTS

Harper secures spot as starting QB

Davis, Ford explode on offense for Tigers during Orange & Purple Game

JOSH FORT
STAFF WRITER

The dust may have settled after last weekend's annual Orange and Purple scrimmage, but plenty of positions on the depth charts have not yet fallen into place.

Coming into the game, the question on everyone's mind was who would be the Tigers' signal caller in September when Clemson takes the field in Death Valley for Bowden Bowl IX.

Much of the media's attention had been focused thus far on freshman phenom and early-enrollee Willy Korn, but junior Cullen Harper made a statement on Saturday in front of over 20,000 orange-clad faithful going 15-24 with 147 yards and three touchdowns, leading the Orange to a 35-16 win.

Korn looked solid for most of the game, finishing 13-25 for 135 yards and one score, while showing impressive mobility out of the pocket. Despite his impressive numbers, Korn did make rookie mistakes, throwing into coverage and missing reads.

The Orange defense made Korn pay for his inexperience by picking off two of his passes, one intercepted by former top ranked prep-school defensive back Deandre McDaniel and the other to cornerback Byron Maxwell. Korn has been projected by many preseason publications to overtake Harper for the starting job at some point during the season and

depending on his summer workouts, could do just that.

The running back position, despite its lack of depth, appears to once again be the strongpoint of the Clemson offense. 2006 first team All-ACC running back James Davis had a productive workout rushing for 100 yards on just six carries. Davis whet Tiger fans' appetite for the season by outrunning multiple defenders on a 65-yard gallop down the sideline for a score.

Last year's second team All-ACC running back and human highlight reel C.J. Spiller looked good but was well-contained by the defense, rushing nine times for 35 yards. The Lake Butler, Fla. native also had four catches for nine yards.

Clemson head coach Tommy Bowden has stated on multiple occasions this spring that he and offensive coordinator Rob Spence will find a way to get both Spiller and Davis on the field at the same time, in an effort to increase the number of sleepless nights for opposing defensive coordinators. Tiger fans got a glimpse of some of the new wrinkles that have been added, which included a direct snap to Spiller. The Clemson offense may also try to show the duo's versatility by employing Spiller at slot receiver or possibly allowing either Davis or Spiller to attempt a few passes.

Although the receiving corps lost all-conference wideout Chansi Stuckey to graduation and more than likely the NFL Draft, a solid group of pass catchers will take the field this fall. Jacoby Ford showed fans his speed and hands last Saturday catching seven passes for 105 yards. The former Fork Union star also



PATRICK WRIGHT/Contributing photographer

TAKIN' IT TO THE BARN: James Davis breaks away for a 65 yard touchdown run in Clemson's annual spring game.

had 35 yards on just two carries. Ford's blistering speed, along with Spiller's, will be looked upon by the coaching staff to keep defenders on their toes.

Wide receiver Aaron Kelly looks to have improved on his physicality and playmaking ability from last season but still appears to lack weight. The six-foot-five-inch Marietta, Ga. native caught six passes for 89 yards and one touchdown. Sure-handed junior Tyler Grisham also had a solid offensive day, catching three passes for 30 yards. Two of Grisham's catches were touchdowns

from Harper.

Also quickly catching on after enrolling early is tight end Brian Linthicum. The Farmington, N.M., native caught two passes for 46 yards, one of which was a 36 yard scoring strike from Korn. Linthicum has come on strong this spring and looks ready to avoid a red-shirt.

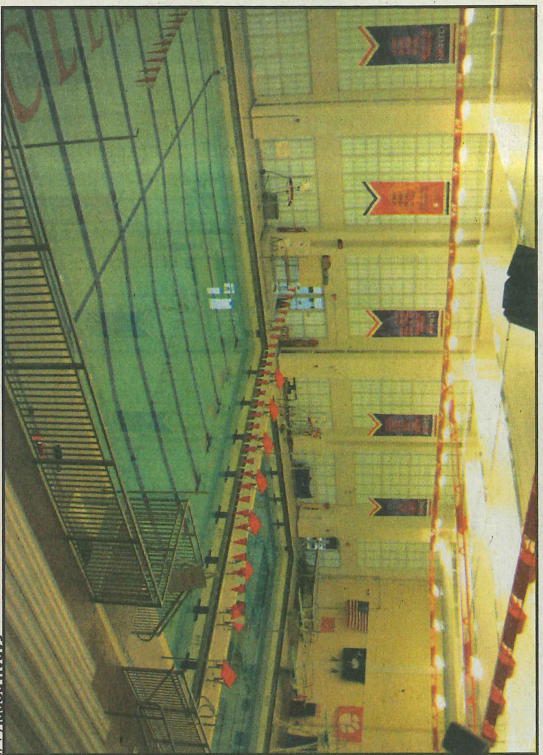
The Tigers seemed poised to have yet another solid campaign as they enter 2007 in their third year under defensive coordinator Vic Koenning.

see **SPRING**, page C4

Students yearn for Fike expansion

Proposals underway for additions to recreation and fitness center at Clemson.

SARAH PORRI
STAFF WRITER



SARAH PORRI/Staff

At 5:45 p.m., frustrations abound for students who decide to get a quick workout in before dinner. After finding a parking spot and walking in, they are lost within a sea of people waiting for ellipticals and bench press stations. No one can turn around without stepping on someone else's shoes. An hour and a half goes by, and

they spend half the time waiting for machines while tripping over students and the occasional faculty member. A quick dip in the pool would be nice to cool off, but the swim team is working out.

This type of experience is not uncommon among Clemson students and faculty. Every day, students waste their workout time because there is not enough space to get an adequate workout in Fike. The peak times in Fike are usually from 4:00-10:00 p.m. In one day, it is possible to have over 4,500 students work out at Fike, according to Butch Stanphill, the senior director of campus life. Over three thousand come after 4 p.m. That is six hours that students fight for the next treadmill or squat rack. In all, there are only 24 elliptical trainers and 15 treadmills.

"There are several things that Fike needs. For one thing, the cardio and strength training area is not big enough. Everyone knows our weight room is too small," said Butch Stanphill. "We also need to improve the atmosphere to encourage more females to work out." Currently, Fike Recreation

Center's cardio and weight area take up 8,500 square feet of Clemson's campus. A good rule of thumb when it comes to student recreation is having at least one square foot per student available. Clemson's undergraduate student body is comprised of over 14,000 students, discounting the 3,000 graduates and seemingly endless array of faculty and staff employed at Clemson.

Using these numbers, Fike is half the size it should be. This lack of space is a real problem. "I really think we need an area for women, and the circuit training area would accomplish this goal," said Stanphill. "It would be resistance training and not heavy lifting, which is what appeals to women." Fortunately, something is being done to address this problem. Surveyors and building contractors have visited Fike and proposed an expansion to this small facility. In the near future, it is possible for students as well as faculty and staff to enjoy a state-of-the-art facility complete with more room for free weights, additional aerobic

see **GYM**, page C7

The song is over



ERIC SPROTT
staff writer

Reflecting on the four years I've spent here at Clemson, I can hardly come to terms with the fact that I'm about to become an alumnus of this outstanding institution. Gone will be the days of cursing at the parking police, going to classes that I hated with every fiber in my body and being a part of Clemson's endless chase of becoming a Top 20 school. I still don't know what reaching that goal will change, apart from another hike in tuition, but I digress.

Being able to walk through our beautiful campus, free admission to all Clemson sporting events and an excuse to still act like a kid are all other things that will soon be a thing of the past for me. I'll also be leaving behind this great job I've had writing for The Tiger, which has served as a great learning opportunity while opening many doors for me along the way.

The times spent in the office, though often insane, were some of the best times I have had at Clemson. On Wednesdays, our production night, the senior staff would sometimes stay in the office for over 12 hours into Thursday morning. I'll never forget leaving after my first night as sports editor and seeing students on their way to class. Apart from that night, and hearing American Idol in the background more times than I care to count, it was a dream job.

There seems to be paradox that I think all graduating students must go through- while there is a sense of accomplishment that accompanies graduation, one is also terrified of the real world that is staring them straight in the face after shaking President Barker's hand in Littlejohn. At this point, I can't say with any certainty what awaits me after graduation on August 11. I'd like to think sports will be a large part of whatever I do in life, but who knows? I think that'd be the dream for many of us, because sports are a huge part of the Clemson experience.

For many Clemson students, some of their fondest memories rest in athletics. I'm no exception, because I've invested a lot of time in Clemson athletics in my four years. I've traveled to most of the ACC schools, while also attending a pair of Clemson victories in Columbia as well as three bowl games. I've seen the good, the bad and the ugly while following the Tigers up and down the Atlantic coast, and I wouldn't trade my experiences for anything else in the world.

see **ERIC**, page C7

TIGER SCHEDULE

BASEBALL
Friday 4/20
Virginia
7:15 p.m.
Clemson, S.C.

Sunday 4/22
Virginia
1 p.m.
Clemson, S.C.

Wednesday 4/25
South Carolina
7:15 p.m.
Clemson, S.C.

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Friday-Sunday 4/20-22
ACC Championships
All Day
Cary, N.C. (men)
Raleigh, N.C. (women)

WOMEN'S ROWING

Saturday 4/21
ACC Championships
10 a.m.
Clemson, S.C.

MEN'S TRACK

Friday 4/20
ACC Outdoor Championships
11 a.m.
College Park, MD

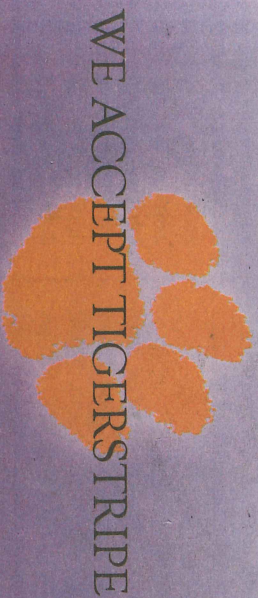
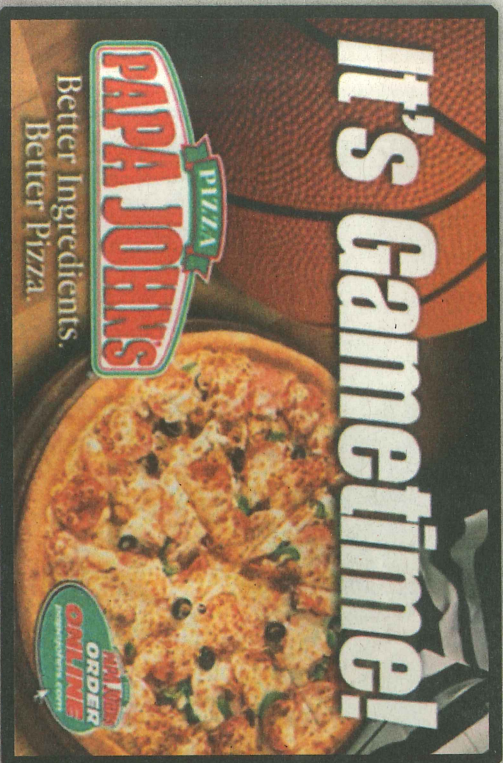
WOMEN'S TRACK

Friday-Saturday 4/20-21
ACC Outdoor Championships
All Day
College Park, MD

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<p>Tuesday Carryout Special One 14" Large One Topping</p> <p>\$5.99</p> <p><small>Not Available For Delivery Coupon Expires 5/31/07 Tuesdays Only Tax Not Included</small></p>	<p>Study Special One Small Two Toppings & One 20 oz. Coke Product</p> <p>\$5.99</p> <p><small>Coupon Expires 5/31/07 Tax Not Included</small></p>	<p>Dinner for Two One Large One Topping & One Order of Cheesesticks</p> <p>\$11.99</p> <p><small>Coupon Expires 5/31/07 Tax Not Included</small></p>
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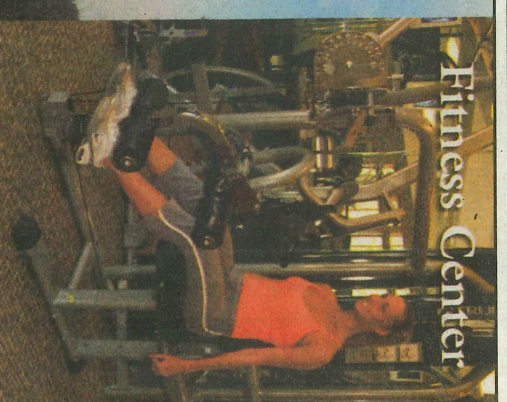


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THE TIGER SPORTS STAFF MAKES ITS PICKS

1. Raiders	QB Janarius Russell	LSU
2. Lions	DE Gaines Adams	Clemson
3. Browns	RB Adrian Peterson	Oklahoma
4. Buccaneers	WR Calvin Johnson	Georgia Tech
5. Cardinals	OT Joe Thomas	Wisconsin
6. Redskins	DE Jamaal Anderson	Arkansas
7. Vikings	QB Brady Quinn	Noire Dame
8. Falcons	S LaRon Landry	LSU
9. Dolphins	DT Alan Branch	Michigan
10. Texans	WR Ted Ginn, Jr.	Ohio State
11. 49ers	WR Dwayne Jarrett	Southern Cal
12. Bills	RB Marshawn Lynch	California
13. Rams	CB Leon Hall	Michigan
14. Panthers	LB Patrick Willis	Ole Miss
15. Steelers	LB Paul Posluszney	Penn State
16. Packers	TE Greg Olsen	Miami
17. Jaguars	S Michael Griffin	Texas
18. Bengals	LB Lawrence Timmons	Florida State
19. Titans	WR Dwayne Bowe	LSU
20. Giants	CB Darrelle Revis	Pittsburgh
21. Broncos	OT Levi Brown	Penn State
22. Cowboys	LB David Harris	Michigan
23. Chiefs	OG Justin Blalock	Texas
24. Patriots	S Reggie Nelson	Florida
25. Jets	LB Jon Beason	Miami
26. Eagles	WR Robert Metchem	Tennessee
27. Saints	CB Chris Houston	Arkansas
28. Patriots	LB Buster Davis	Florida State
29. Ravens	OT Joe Staley	Central Michigan
30. Chargers	WR Anthony Gonzalez	Ohio State
31. Bears	OG Ben Grubbs	Auburn
32. Colts	DT Amobi Okoye	Louisville

Adams headlines 2007 prospects from Clemson

Struckey, Waters among former Tigers expecting to be drafted on first-day by NFL.

BUCKY BERLIN

STAFF WRITER

For most young football players there is no higher goal than to play in the National Football League. Every spring brings the date of the annual NFL draft: the first point at which college players get the chance to make the transformation to professional athletes. The draft itself consists of seven rounds in which each team gets the opportunity to select players based on the previous year's record and any other picks accumulated through trades or compensation. Players that are at least three years out of high school are eligible for the draft, but non-seniors usually have to go through an extensive process to forego their remaining college eligibility. In addition to their personal college performance, players may have the opportunity to workout for scouts at senior bowls, pro days or at the NFL combine held in February. Anyone not selected in one of the seven rounds is immediately eligible to be signed as a free agent and can then earn his way onto an active roster through performance at summer camps and in preseason games.

Over 20 former Tigers currently play in the NFL, including Brian Dawkins of the Philadelphia Eagles, LeRoy Hill of the Seattle Seahawks, Justin Miller of the New York Jets, Chris Gardocki of the Pittsburgh Steelers and Rod Gardner of the Kansas City Chiefs. Cornerback Tye Hill was a first-round pick by the St. Louis Rams in last year's draft. Another Clemson player is projected to be drafted in the first round this year, and several other players have received attention from NFL teams and could be drafted or signed in free agency. Here are brief profiles and updates on the Tigers who have been actively preparing for the

NFL.

#93 Gaines Adams, DE - 6-5/260 - Greenwood, SC - Sports Management

Projected to go as high as a top-five pick in the first round, Adams benefited greatly from returning for his senior season at Clemson. A unanimous first team All-American in 2006, he compiled 28 sacks and 168 tackles, 44.5 for loss, in 48 games played over the course of his college career. His .66 quarterback pressures and 21 pass deflections are indications of his speed at the snap and his tremendous pass-rushing skills. Truly one of the top defensive ends available in this year's draft, Adams was clocked at 4.64 in the 40-yard dash at the NFL combine, the fastest time at his position. With tremendous upside and room to grow, Adams could make an immediate impact in any pass-rushing scheme.

#2 Chansi Struckey, WR - 6-0/185 - Warner Robins, GA - Sports Management

Struckey developed into the Tigers' primary receiving threat in 2006, prior to being sidelined with a broken foot. He accumulated 1,760 yards with 141 catches and seven touchdowns in his career after switching to wide receiver from the quarterback position. He posted a 40-time of 4.48 at Clemson's pro day, a vast improvement over his performance at the combine. A two-time first-team All-ACC wide receiver, Struckey's elusiveness, athleticism and versatility will probably earn him a late round pick on the first day of the draft.

#40 Anthony Waters, LB - 6-3/235 - Lake View, SC - Sports Management

Likely to be a steal for a team on the first day of the draft, Waters originally lost a lot of value following a season-ending ACL injury in 2006. Originally projected as a first-round pick, he has rebounded well from his injury, posting a 4.62 40-yard time at his personal workout in early April. Experience at inside and outside linebacker as well as knowledge of the 3-4 and 4-3 schemes are major benefits for teams looking

at Waters. In 36 games with 23 starts, Waters totaled 217 tackles, 22.5 tackles for loss, 11 quarterback pressures, 3.5 sacks and eight pass deflections. A resilient player and individual, Waters is known for his leadership and work ethic. He is the ideal size for a pro linebacker with the instincts and speed to go with it.

#12 C.J. Gaddis, CB - 6-0/210 - Raeford, NC - Sociology

The only junior from Clemson entering the draft, Gaddis came on strong at corner in 2006. He is a natural athlete, running between a 4.40 and 4.45 40-yard dash and benching 225 pounds 20 times, and could be versatile at the next level with experience at multiple corner and safety positions after switching over from quarterback. Gaddis would have benefited greatly from returning for his senior season but will likely be a first-day pick nonetheless based on potential after posting 113 tackles, five interceptions and seven blocked passes in three seasons with limited starts.

#62 Dustin Fry, C - 6-3/320 - Summerville, SC - Sports Management

The anchoring member of Clemson's offensive line, Fry is credited with 171 knockdown blocks in 2,192 plays over the course of 46 games, 26 as a starter. In 2006, he helped lead the offense in gaining 410.92 yards per game in total offense, including 217.85 yards rushing, while giving up only 1.15 sacks per game; all of which are ACC-leading marks. Fry is rumored to have bench pressed 225 pounds an incredible 42 times, while also squating 655 pounds and putting on an impressive strength showing at the combine. He is likely to be a late round selection with his toughness in the running game and possible versatility at other offensive line positions.

#37 Reggie Merritweather, RB - 5-8/215 - North Augusta, SC - Human Resource Development

A hard-nosed runner with a thick NFL-style frame, Merritweather had an impressive pro day workout by running

a 4.53 in the 40-yard dash and benching 225-pounds 26 times. With 1,612 yards and 20 touchdowns over the span of his career, he has proven durability and many of the intangibles associated with pro-level players. Merritweather can hit the hole hard, running inside or outside the tackles and can catch the ball well out of the backfield. Tacklers rarely bring him down with the first hit.

He had a good outing at the Hula Bowl in January, scoring a late-game touchdown that led to the win and picking up big plays rushing and receiving on the same drive. With his strength, speed, experience and attitude, Merritweather is likely to be a second day pick, as many teams are looking to add a runner of his style to their rosters.

#3 Duane Coleman, CB - 5-10/195 - Naples, FL - Human Resource Development

Originally a running back, Coleman switched to the defensive side of the ball his junior year and finished fourth on the team his senior year with 81 total tackles in 12 starts. He also picked off one pass while blocking two others. His aggressiveness and athleticism on the field could translate well at the next level with more experience, but his off-field transgressions may limit him to a late-round or free agency selection.

#63 Nathan Bennett, OG - 6-5/310 - Dallas, GA - Sports Management

Another key part of Clemson's strong offensive line and rushing performance in 2006, Bennett led the team with 97 knockdown blocks as a senior. A four-year starter, Bennett was an All-ACC selection at offensive guard. Like Fry, he put on an impressive strength showing at the combine and has the size and toughness to play guard in the NFL. His tremendous level of experience could project him as a late round selection.

#15 Sergio Gilliam, CB - 6-3/185 - Greer, SC - Sports Management

Gilliam has the size, versatility and potential to earn a spot in the second- or third- round of the draft. He has experience after splitting playing time with several

other talented players, including current NFL corners Tye Hill and Justin Miller. He posted 61 tackles, six passes blocked and one interception in his career, including a career-high nine tackles in the triple-overtime game against Miami (FL) in 2005.

#7 Jad Dean, PK - 5-11/205 - Greenwood, SC - Management

A preseason All-American candidate in 2006, finalist for the Lou Groza award in 2005 and holder of the record for most field goals in a season with 24 in 2005, Dean struggled his senior year with seven misses on 22 attempts. He has a strong leg and could develop into a pro kicker with re-established confidence and consistency. Dean proved his ability by kicking a 65-yard field goal in front of scouts at Clemson's pro day.

#14 Will Proctor, QB - 6-2/210 - Winter Park, FL - Management

In his only season as a full-time starter, Proctor completed over 60 percent of his passes for 2,353 yards and sixteen touchdowns with eleven interceptions. He lacks the arm strength considered standard among pro quarterbacks but proved his worth at the Hula Bowl in January, going 9-for-15 for 105 yards, as well as engineering the late game drive and throwing the winning two-point conversion. His performance earned him MVP honors. A very athletic dual-threat quarterback, Proctor could earn his way onto a roster with a good camp workout and increased experience. Clemson's two other senior offensive linemen could also find themselves on NFL rosters: Marlon Dukes, 6-4 and 320 pounds, is highly experienced and Roman Fry, 6-4 and 300 pounds, is recovering from an ACL injury suffered late in the season. Both players need to have good summer camp workouts. Defensive end Brandon Cannon, 6-3 and 255 pounds, has also been preparing for the NFL. Tight end Thomas Hunter, punter Cole Chason, defensive tackle Donnell Clark, fullback Brent Smith and long snapper Nic Riddle are the remaining senior Tigers eligible for the NFL.



GAINES ADAMS



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CHANSI STRUCKEY

Tigers win two at Wake, get smacked by Cocks

Clemson falls to 0-3 versus rival South Carolina after winning road series against Demon Deacons.

DANIEL TAYLOR
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

The 14th-ranked Clemson Tiger baseball team continued ACC play in Winston-Salem, N.C. last weekend with a three-game series at Wake Forest. The Tigers claimed the series by winning games on Friday and Sunday, dropping the only Saturday game by one run in the ninth inning. On Wednesday night, Clemson fell to fourth-ranked South Carolina 4-2, their third loss of the season to the rival Gamecocks.

On Friday, the Tigers held the Demon Deacons scores for the first five innings before cruising to a 6-2 victory. Clemson starting pitcher Daniel Moskos earned the victory, pitching six innings with seven strikeouts while allowing only one run on six hits, improving to 3-2 on the season. D.J. Mitchell was the closing pitcher, allowing no hits or runs while striking out three in the final two innings of the game. Clemson jumped out to the lead in the third inning on a run by Addison Johnson. Johnson was advanced to third by Brad Chalk before Taylor Harbin brought him home with an RBI single. J.D. Burgess batted in Ben Paulsen in the top of the sixth, and Burgess was later brought home on another hit by Chalk. Chalk later scored on a Harbin single to right field, giving the Tigers a 4-0 lead in the middle of the sixth inning.



JEFF MERRICK/201d Cold and Black, Wake Forest

PLAY AT THE PLATE: Sophomore centerfielder Alex Burg dives safely into home after beating out a throw during action in Winston-Salem, N.C. last weekend.

Michael Murray put the Demon Deacons on the scoreboard with a solo home run in the bottom of the sixth, but Clemson would answer in the top of the seventh inning on a run by Doug Hogan. Brett Linnenkohl scored the final Wake Forest run in the bottom of the seventh, and the Tigers padded their lead with another run in the eighth off another Harbin RBI that plated Johnson for the second time in the game. In Saturday's action the Tigers dropped a 6-5

decision in the ninth inning on a walk-off RBI single by Linnenkohl. The Demon Deacons went ahead 4-1 in the middle of the game, but Clemson came back in the sixth inning to take a 5-4 lead that would last only half an inning until Evan Ocheltree added a solo home run for Wake Forest to tie the score at five runs apiece.

The game would remain tied until the game-winning hit in the ninth for Wake Forest. Alan Farina earned the loss in relief for the Tigers

despite five strikeouts in just over three innings of work, dropping his record to 2-1 on the year. Chalk finished 2-2 on the game and Mitchell and Hogan each added two RBIs for the Tigers.

Clemson claimed the series with a 5-4 victory on Sunday afternoon. After jumping to a 2-0 lead in the first inning, the Demon Deacons relinquished the lead for the remainder of the game after the Tigers moved ahead 3-2 in the top of the second inning.

Paulsen, Wilson Boyd and Marquez Smith each scored runs for the Tigers in the second inning. Clemson added two more runs in the top of the third by Smith and Andy D'Alessio, holding a 5-2 lead until the ninth inning. Despite a two-run flurry in the bottom of the ninth by Wake Forest, the Tigers held on to clinch the series.

Sophomore Ryan Hinson earned the win for Clemson, recording eight strikeouts while allowing only two runs on seven innings of pitching. Hinson now has a 3-1 record this season. D'Alessio led the Tigers offensively in the game, going 3-4 with three RBIs and one run scored.

Unfortunately, Tigers were unable to avenge two prior losses to South Carolina during Wednesday night's game in Columbia. The Gamecocks won 4-2 thanks to four solo home runs in the first three innings, including three off of starting pitcher Matt Zolcak. The Tigers were quiet for most of the game offensively, as well, being held to just six hits.

Clemson is now 25-10 this season with a 10-5 record in the ACC, while Wake Forest dropped to 21-18 overall with an 8-10 conference record. The Tigers will return to action at home this weekend with a series against the Virginia Cavaliers.

SPRING: Future looks bright

from page C1

Linebacker Tremaine Billie returned to the playing surface at Death Valley for the first time since taking a medical red-shirt after injuring his ankle last summer. Billie looks to have regained his speed and seems hungry to be back on the field. He finished the game with four tackles. Linebackers Kaveil Conner and Kevin Alexander also had a solid day for the Purple defense finishing with six tackles.

Middle linebacker Antonio Clay is still projected to return to the team for summer workouts, after going back to Jeffersonville, Ga. for family issues. Clay was in attendance on Saturday and looked to be in good physical condition.

Defensive end Ricky Sapp has put on considerable weight without losing any speed and appeared ready to pick up where All-American Gaines Adams left off. Sapp deflected two passes and accumulated two tackles for loss, including a sack.

Leading the Orange defense in tackles was Allendale, S.C. native Courtney Vincent who finished with ten. Fellow linebacker Jeremy Campbell was also impressive last weekend, finishing his day with nine tackles.

Kwan Williams and Dorrell Scott continued to turn the coaches' heads as they finished the day with six and five tackles, respectively.

Sophomore safety Sadat Chambers had the only interception of the day for the Purple team. Chambers returned the ball 30-yards and showed superior speed. Chris Clemens had the only fumble return in the game, a 23 yard scamper for a touchdown.

Richard Jackson and Mark Buchholz continue to be in a dog fight for the starting place kicker job. The Clemson soccer star turned American football player, kicked three field goals of 21, 32 and 35 yards. He also was perfect on his only extra point attempt. Jackson was four for four on his extra point attempts.

The Tigers will open the 2007 season on Labor Day, Sept. 3 against Florida State. That game will be nationally televised on ESPN.

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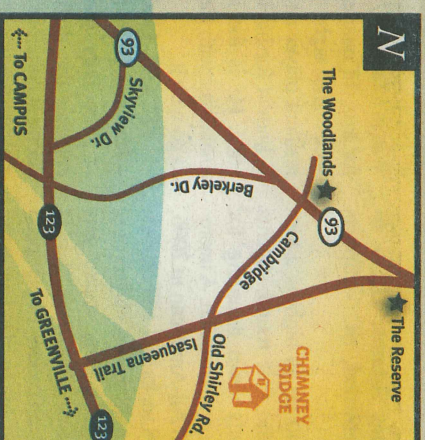
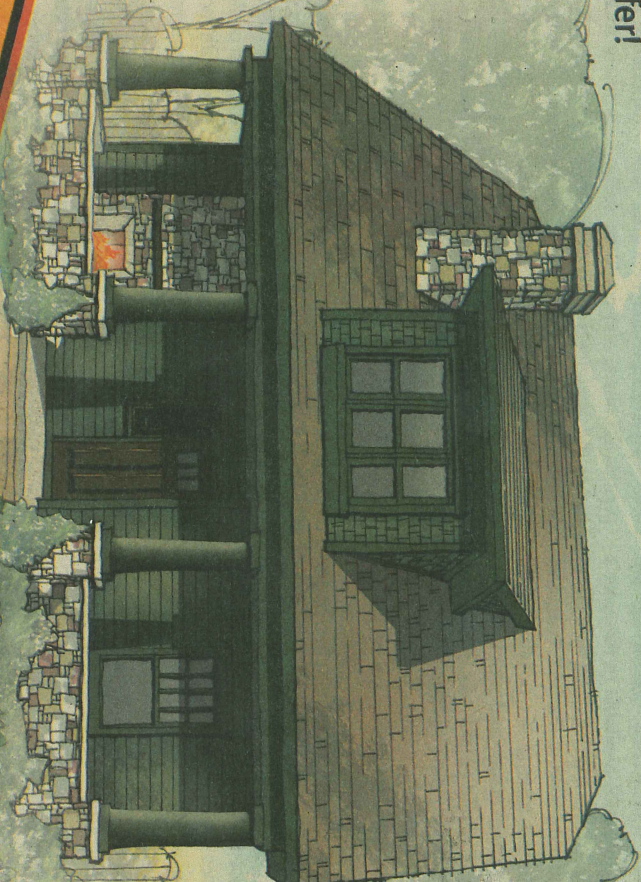
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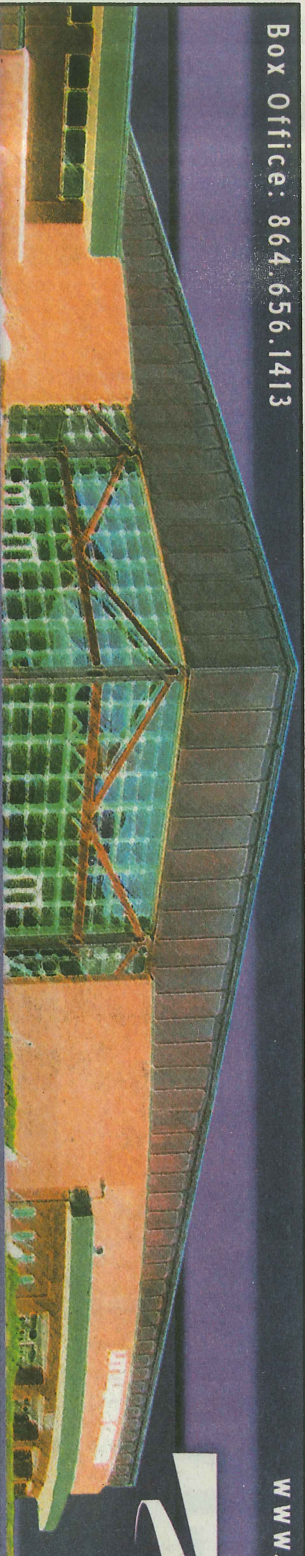


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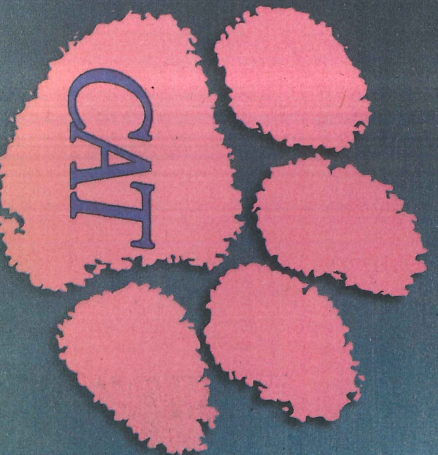


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COVERING THE BASES

ALAN SMITH/SPORTS EDITOR

KEY PLAYERS

KEY PLAYERS



BRAD CHALK



ANDY O'ALESSIO



JEFF MESRI, OLD GOLD AND BLACK, WAKE FOREST



JACOB THOMPSON



BRANDON GUYER

The Tigers will take the field at home tonight for the first time since April 4 to face sixth-ranked Virginia. Surprisingly, the Cavaliers (32-8, 11-6 ACC) are the first ACC team with a winning conference record that Clemson (25-11, 10-5) will face this season.

While the Tigers are in second place in the ACC Atlantic Division, they are somewhat lacking on quality victories, winning just once in four tries against ranked opponents so far. Therefore, Clemson needs a strong showing this weekend to prove that they are still among the nation's elite.

Virginia is certainly not a team to be taken lightly, as they have gone 3-2 against conference heavyweights North Carolina (2-1 in Chapel Hill) and Georgia Tech. The Cavs are currently in second place in the ACC Coastal Division, trailing the Tar Heels by a game and a half.

Offensively, Clemson has not been quite as explosive as expected this season. Fortunately, power-hitter Andy D'Alessio returned to the lineup last weekend after sitting out for two weeks with an injury. D'Alessio struggled in his first two games back against Wake Forest but broke out in the series finale, going 3-4 with two doubles and three RBIs.

Centerfielder Brad Chalk has been the most consistent hitter for the Tigers this season and one of the best in the ACC. Chalk continued to impress last weekend, going 5-6 with a double and an RBI in two games, before taking the third game off. On the season, he is batting a team-high .416 with an on-base percentage of .537, second-best in the ACC, and has yet to commit an error.

Doug Hogan and Marquez Smith have shone at the plate for Clemson this year, but both players went through

slumps last weekend, going a combined 2-26. However, neither one is likely to stay dormant for long. Smith has hit a team-high six home runs and is batting .309 with 28 RBIs. Hogan leads the Tigers with 27 runs scored and is second in both batting average (.325) and home runs (5).

Freshman Wilson Boyd has quietly been performing well for the Tigers recently. While sharing the right field position with D.J. Mitchell, Boyd looked sharp last weekend against the Deacons, getting five hits in nine at-bats to improve his average to .286.

Clemson's pitchers have continued to impress with a solid team ERA of 3.35. Former closer Daniel Moskos was outstanding in his second career start last Friday. Moskos earned the win after giving up just one earned run and six hits in six innings, while striking out seven.

Ryan Hinson had a solid outing

against the Deacons, as well, pitching seven strong innings and giving up just two earned runs. Hinson's ERA of 2.28 is fifth-best in the ACC for pitchers who have pitched at least 35 innings.

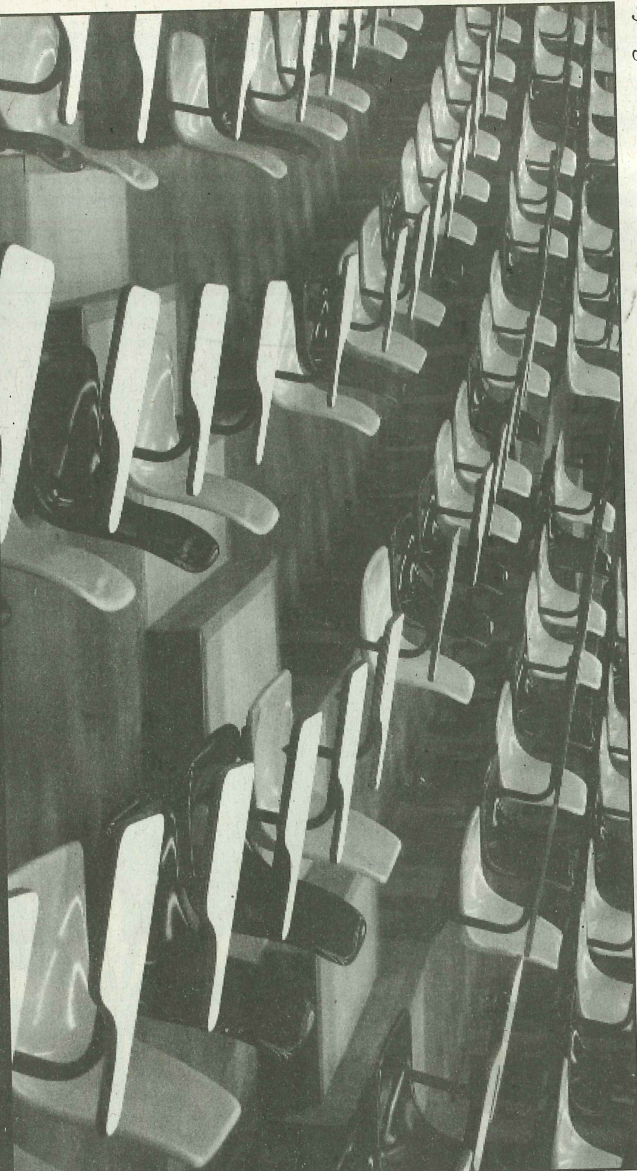
The Cavaliers are the second-best hitting team in the ACC average-wise and are led by two of the conference's top five hitters in that category. Leftfielder Brandon Guyer is Virginia's most-feared hitter, leading the team with six home runs, 13 doubles and 40 RBIs to go along with his .430 batting average.

First baseman Greg Miclat is an extremely tough out as well. Like Guyer, Miclat is hitting over .400 (.404 to be exact), but the stat that really jumps out about him is his 2.38-1 walk-to-strikeout ratio. Mike Mitchell and David Adams are batting over .350 for the Cavs as well, meaning that the Clemson pitchers will have their work cut out for them.

As good of a hitting team as Virginia is, their pitching may be even better. The Cavs' ERA of 2.25 is tops in the ACC. Ace Jacob Thompson is one of the top pitchers in the country, owning an 8-0 record and a ridiculous 1.32 ERA in 10 starts.

Sean Doolittle, who is 6-2 with a 2.42 ERA, is not much easier to hit off of than Thompson. Combining for 19 starts, these two pitchers have only given up a total of 24 earned runs while striking out 110. The Cavs have also found a reliable closer in Casey Lambert, who sports a 0.95 ERA with seven saves and 28 strikeouts in just 19 innings.

Tonight's game begins at 7:15, followed by a 7:00 start tomorrow and a 1:00 start Sunday afternoon. With warm and sunny weather in the forecast for the next three days, Tiger Field will be filled with orange for this crucial ACC series.



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BASEBALL AMERICA TOP 25 POLL

- | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Vanderbilt | 10. Wichita State | 18. UC Irvine |
| 2. North Carolina | 11. Arizona State | 19. San Diego |
| 3. Florida State | 12. Arizona | 20. Mississippi State |
| 4. South Carolina | 13. Pepperdine | 21. Coastal Carolina |
| 5. Texas | 14. Clemson | 22. Michigan |
| 6. Virginia | 15. Oklahoma State | 23. Tulane |
| 7. Rice | 16. Texas A&M | 24. Mississippi |
| 8. Oregon State | 17. Cal State Fullerton | 25. NC State |

ACC STANDINGS

Team	ATLANTIC Conference	Overall
Florida State	13-2-0	35-4-0
Clemson	10-5-0	25-10-0
NC State	11-7-0	26-11-0
Wake Forest	07-8-0	18-16-0
Maryland	6-12-0	20-18-0
Boston College	6-12-0	12-21-0
COASTAL Conference		
North Carolina	13-5-0	32-6-0
Virginia	11-6-0	31-8-0
Georgia Tech	10-7-0	22-14-0
Miami	8-10-0	22-16-0
Duke	4-14-0	23-15-0
Virginia Tech	4-14-0	17-20-0

Ladies clinch ACC tennis title

Clemson shines on the court as the conference tournament approaches.

DANIEL TAYLOR

ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

The Clemson tennis teams should be smiling after a group of dominating performances to close out the regular season. The men and women combined for a 6-0 record last week, winning five of those match-ups by at least a score of 5-2. The women's team won two of those games over Virginia and Virginia Tech, both coming on the road. Their 6-1 victory over the Hokies on Saturday clinched a share of the regular season ACC title, Clemson's first since the 2004 season. "We are so proud of what we did...sharing the title with Georgia Tech. It's really big for us," said freshman star Ann Mijacka.

With the wins, the Lady Tigers improved to 19-3 (10-1 in conference), including seven victories over top 25 teams. "Every match we are playing without pressure," said Mijacka. "We are trying to give our best in every match, and if we keep doing that, I think results will come." Despite the squad's No. 5 national ranking, Mijacka remarked, "I believe we can

get better."

The 5'10" Lady Tiger did her part to help nab a share of the title, dominating her foes in both singles matches last weekend. The Croatian native is now 24-5 in her college career. She surrendered her first set of the week to Virginia player Jennifer Stevens, 4-6.

However, Mijacka quickly rebounded winning the next two sets 6-1, 6-2. The next day in Blacksburg, she made short work of her Hokie opponent, winning 6-2, 6-1. Entering the ACC tournament, Mijacka has won 14 straight matches, including 11 against her ACC opponents. The freshman remains the highest ranked of any Clemson tennis player, who is No. 27 nationally.

Her doubles partner, Federica van Aartscham, also won both her singles matches, while using the minimum amount of sets. Mijacka and Aartscham were the only Lady Tigers to win two matches last week. Together, the duo won both their doubles matches as well, living up to their No. 9 ranking. As a team, they are 13-4 in dual matches this year.

The Lady Tigers are currently in North Carolina competing in the ACC tournament. As ACC co-champions, the women received a bye yesterday, and they will face the winner of N.C. State and Virginia today. "We are hoping to do our best and maybe capture

the title, but it's not going to be easy. The ACC has never been so hard—seven teams from our conference are in top 20," mentioned Mijacka.

While not clinching a title, the men had a successful week of their own defeating four teams. The No. 20 Tigers advanced to 29-8 overall and 6-5 in conference. Last Friday, the men struggled against St. John's, sneaking out with a 4-3 victory. Despite a 12-7 record, the Red Storm proved to be a tough match. A 7-6 singles victory in a third set by Tiger Clement Reix over Louis Desmarreaux proved to be the difference. After the nailbiter against St. John's, Clemson, crushed its remaining opponents for the week.

The men's team rolled through Boston College, Georgetown and Maryland by a combined score of 20-1, losing only one singles match to Maryland. Clemson's wins dominated as they did not lose a set in any of its 17 victories in singles matches.

Tigers Clement Reix, Rok Bizjak, Carlos Alvarez and Ike Belk were victorious in all four of their singles matches last week. Reix, along with teammate Ryan Young, closed out his regular season in fine form, going 4-0 in doubles matches this week.

Looking to match the success of the women this year, the men kicked off their ACC tournament yesterday in a rematch against Boston College.

Track aims for championships

Finished with their regular season, runners compete against ACC foes.

TYRONE GAYLE

STAFF WRITER

Part two of the men's and women's track and field season is underway with the ACC Outdoor Championships, which are currently in progress in College Park, MD.

The men will be led by indoor 60m national champion Travis Padgett, who looks to defend his outdoor 100m title from a year ago. Joining him in the event will be fellow speedsters C.J. Spiller, Jacoby Ford, Corey Brown and Gwanavevus Anderson. After his regional qualifying and "ACC Athlete of the Week" performance from a week ago, Andrew "Sunshine" Porter enters the ACC championships with the second fastest mark in the 400m hurdles of 51.95.

Other top Clemson competitors to keep track of will be indoor long jump champion George Fields, 6x ACC high jump champion Adam Linkenanger,

triple jump All-American Jason Bell, and All-ACC distance ace Matt Clark in the 10,000m and 5,000m runs.

Junior Mich Greeley, an indoor All-American from a year ago, will look to avenge his loss at ACC Indoors after entering the meet with the top performance and finishing second overall. Ryan "the Franchise" Koozts is also a reigning champion looking to close his spectacular Clemson career with another ACC Championship.

Koozts is a two-time All-American in the decathlon outdoors and heptathlon indoors. Currently, the men are ranked 14th in the country, and will go into yet another heated battle with the Noles from Florida State, who are ranked number one.

The women placed 10th at this meet a year ago, but a vast improvement was apparent after they placed fifth at the indoor championships held at Clemson only eight short weeks ago. They enter the conference meet headlined by sophomore standout Polly Hardy, who has been on a tear lately posting regional qualifying marks in every outdoor meet this season.

Along with Hardy, Krystal

ERIC: Goodbye from former sports editor

from page C1

Of course, there were also the bad times when my emotions got the best of me as well. As I've aged, I've tried to calm down when dealing with the shortcomings in Clemson athletics. When I was younger, I used to sink into either brief depression or rage following tough losses. My personal highlight reel includes using a sledgehammer to destroy a tape of the 1998 Peach Bowl loss to Auburn, smashing my remote control into dozens of pieces after the second loss to South Carolina in the 2002 College World Series and punching through a wood panel closet following the 1999 basketball loss to California in the NIT Championship.

I feel sure there are other incidents that I'm forgetting, but hopefully that painted a violent picture for you all.

It's easy to recall the happier times that include resounding victories over teams such as South Carolina, Florida State, Texas A&M and Tennessee.

However, I could rattle off memories of those games, and others—enough to fill the entire sports section, but I'll spare you the pain of reading through all of that. Many of my memories include stories that probably wouldn't be fit for print anyway.

As important as sports have been for me and all of you, I feel as though I should pass along a few pieces of knowledge that I've gathered in my time here. Though I sometimes lose sight of it, there is more to Clemson than athletics. This institution affords us a number of opportunities apart from sporting events, and it's important to seek out these opportunities and get involved.

Roy Welsh, who wrote his 'farewell column' at this time last year, stressed this as well. Had I not become involved with The Tiger or several other organizations that I'm a part of, my college experience would have been very hollow. Sure, I would have had plenty of fun with my friends and at football games, but getting out and trying something new is something we should all do.

I had no clue what I was getting into with this job, and I've put in many hours and a lot of effort over the past two years. The time and effort has paid off,

as it led to a sports writing job I've held since this past August. I also landed a summer internship in media relations, and I can credit my time at The Tiger for the opportunity.

Most importantly, I urge you to cherish your time here and the people you're with. Following the horrific events at Virginia Tech earlier this week, I think it should be obvious that we need to cherish life and those we care about. It's unfortunate that it takes such tragedy to make these things become so clear, but that seems to be the only way to bring these issues into focus.

Never again will I have the opportunity to be surrounded by so many friends at once. It's an unfortunate truth that all graduates must deal with. I encourage you all to make the most of this time you have together, and let your friends know what they mean to you.

In this world we live in today, time passes so quickly, and unfortunate events can bring it all to an end instantly.

Stepping back now, I hope that I've properly done as I've preached here. Life is painstakingly short and is often underappreciated, as is our time at Clemson University. Only now with end near can I truly begin to reflect on what this school has meant to me over the last four years.

Clemson has afforded me ample opportunities for success, given me friendships that I will keep for the rest of my life and given me a sense of belonging. The experiences I've had have been immeasurable in terms of worth. To look back and see how I've matured and grown since 2003 is extremely satisfying, as Clemson has played a large role in making me who I am as I prepare to carry my degree into the real world.

A great band named The Who once sang, "The song is over, and I'm left with only tears." Those words have never rang as true as they do now as I face the end of my collegiate career. As my song ends, I urge you to cherish your time here, treasure the relationships you have and embrace this great place where the Blue Ridge yawns its greatness.

GYM: Recreational center considering additions

from page C1

machines, a 50-meter indoor pool with diving platforms, an outdoor recreation pool, as well as over 100 parking spaces under the expansion.

"It is a small pool. It is shared by athletics. There is not enough programming time for either one of us. There is not a leisure pool. There is not a lap pool. I'd love to see an outdoor pool," Stanphill said in regards to McHugh Natatorium.

This new and improved student recreation center would be just another pearl in the necklace of the ACC and the nation. Already, the nation's top 20 universities have met the student's recreational needs by building these amazing facilities on campus.

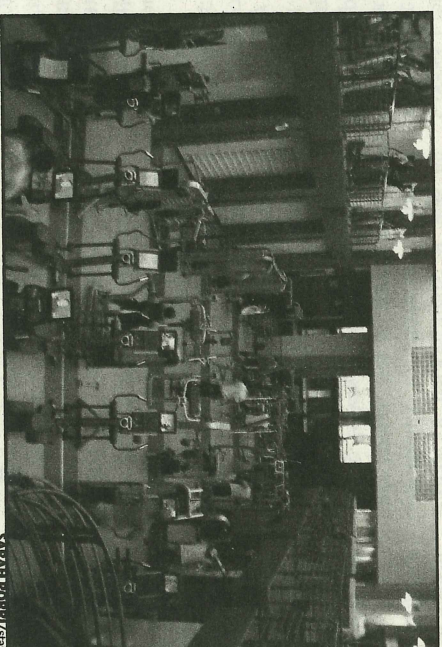
Others are planning and raising awareness of the need for such facilities. Clemson University's student activity fee of 30 dollars a year pales in comparison with other schools in the ACC and the nation. University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill has a student activity fee of almost 200 dollars. However, they are still planning on increasing the fee by over 25 percent to keep their facilities up to the ACC par. Georgia Tech students pay over 400 dollars for their student activity fee. They expanded and renovated their existing student recreation center, the old 1996 Olympic pool, a few years ago. It now includes more basketball courts above the renovated pool area, a second 25-yard pool complete with a waterslide and sundeck right outside. The free weight area and squash ball courts have also been expanded. It is a breathtaking facility that all started with an idea.

The expansion of Fike could include, as mentioned, more weight space as well as more aerobic machines. It has been proposed to fill in the current swimming pool to create an enlarged free weight area with enough space to accommodate

more students. The stadium seating in the pool area could be made into a three-tier podium overlooking the free weight area with enough room for over 50 new treadmills and elliptical machines.

"An expanded indoor pool would really help the entire community. We could have a Masters swim program as well as youth age group swim program. We need a leisure pool for students. If the pool expanded, then you could have intercollegiate athletics going on at the same time as lap swimming or fitness swimming. We need a huge hot tub, and shallow water for youth instruction as well as fun stuff for students like water basketball and volleyball," said Stanphill.

In terms of aquatics, a new 50-meter pool with a diving



CLAUSTROPHOBIC: Cramped conditions are a problem for students trying to improve their fitness.

tower would be added to the building in the proposed expansion. This pool would have 22 short course lanes, which are 25 yards long. Students, faculty and staff would be able to walk into the pool and work out anytime they wanted.

There would also be a second pool outside. This recreation pool would be available for anyone to use on a sunny day. Also, over 100 parking spaces would be added underneath the structure, right across the street from Death Valley.

"There are a couple of theories to the outdoor pool. One is that I think it would help the amenities of the college campus to have an outdoor pool. We need to keep up with the amenities that off-campus complexes offer, and the outdoor pool is one of those things. We're in a warm southern climate; we ought to have an outdoor pool," Stanphill said in response to the possibility of an outdoor pool.

Rival schools Virginia Tech and Virginia are putting money towards improving their aquatic facilities. With these suggested additions, Clemson would surpass South Carolina as the premiere aquatic center in the upstate.

"It's all right now a vision that needs to be refined. It is all the timing. Three and a half years ago they renovated this place and did not do as much to the pool as needed to be done," said Stanphill.

This expansion of Fike could happen. Raising awareness of this issue is vital for something to happen. It may take some time, but the benefits far outweigh the costs of such an idea. Right now, Fike Recreation Center is working in conjunction with Clemson swimming and diving, as well as the rest of Clemson athletics, to try and make this idea become a beautiful reality.

Perhaps Stanphill said it best, "We need this facility."

"J_ex = f(u)"

TimeOut

SECTION

D

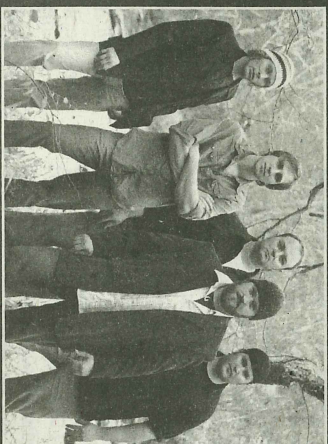
Esso presents Zac Brown Band

If you wanted a night of knee-slapping, make-you-get-up-and-dance country music, you should've been at the Esso on Friday night. Relative unknowns Zac Brown Band, Sonia Leigh and John Pringle wandered in and made themselves comfortable, right along with all of the regulars.

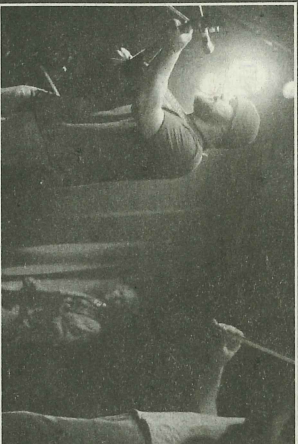
The set was supposed to start out with John Pringle, but because of some unknown traffic problem on I-85 he showed up a little late. Sonia Leigh went on first in his place. Her sound and image were a little bit of a shocker for the usual crowd at the Esso. I like her music on Myspace, which is kind of an indie remix of bluegrass country, but on stage it had a different ring. While her original musical style did not fit the standard mold of Esso Club performers, Sonia Leigh still managed to capture the crowd.

Being an avid folk/indie/bluegrass fan, I liked John Pringle a lot. He had the soulful folksiness of Bob Dylan, the whimsy and bluegrass of Ryan Adams, and the throbbing angst of Eddie Vedder: a must see combination. Even though he performed later due to the traffic thing and screwed up the line-up, he was worth the wait. The crowd didn't respond to him that well, but their lack of appreciation can be overlooked due to the atmosphere. He just wasn't someone that would be a typical Esso performer.

The highlight of the evening was the headliner -The Zac Brown Band. They had the right look, the right sound and the right attitude for the crowd. They played mostly

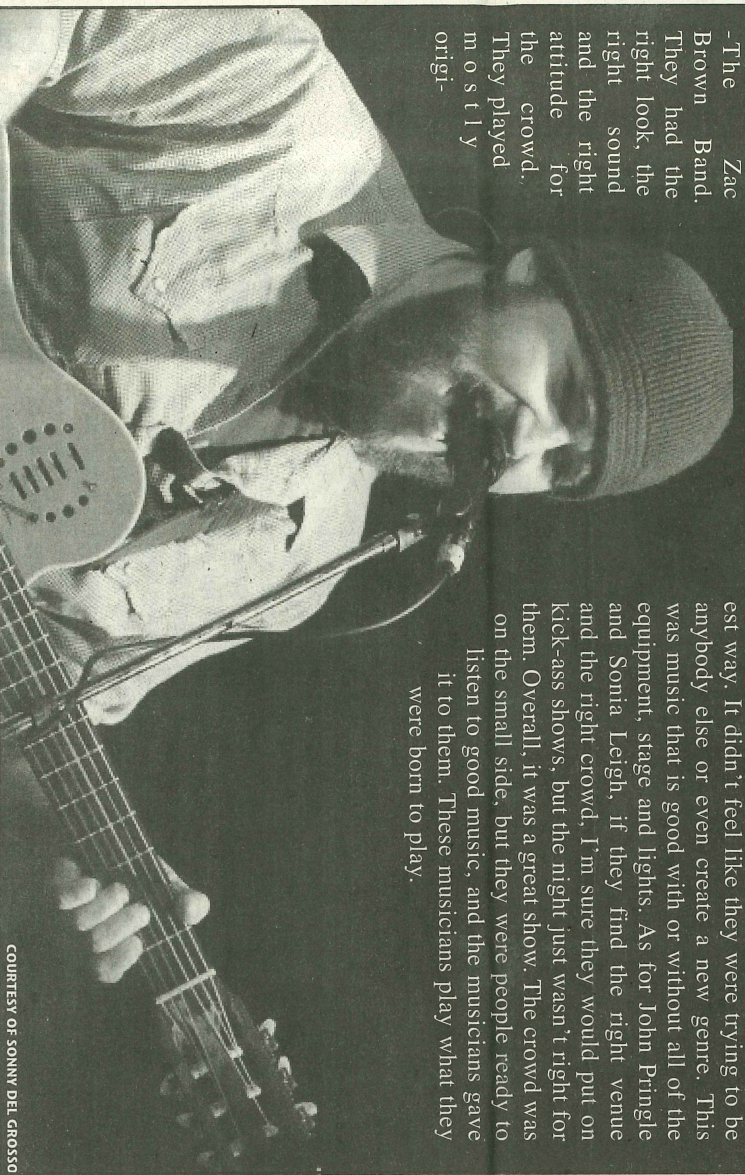


LENA WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER



na! stuff, but threw in a few Pink Floyd covers, and the end all be all of covers: "The Devil Went Down to Georgia." They really got the crowd involved, and everyone was dancing and singing along. They came on late, but they hit the right chords to bring down the house. Even for those new to Zac Brown, they're a band that one could go see again and again.

What was so great about Zac Brown's show was that it was country, but in an unaffected honest way. It didn't feel like they were trying to be anybody else or even create a new genre. This was music that is good with or without all of the equipment, stage and lights. As for John Pringle and Sonia Leigh, if they find the right venue and the right crowd, I'm sure they would put on kick-ass shows, but the night just wasn't right for them. Overall, it was a great show. The crowd was on the small side, but they were people ready to listen to good music, and the musicians gave it to them. These musicians play what they were born to play.



COURTESY OF SONNY DEL GROSSO



COURTESY OF ANDREA WENTZEL

Sister Hazel tour brings new sound

Sister Hazel, the five-man rock band named after a minister who ran rescue missions in Gainesville, Fla., is giving a lawn concert at Clemson's own Littlejohn Coliseum.

LINDSAY BRASINGTON
STAFF WRITER

If you think you already like Sister Hazel, you will definitely love them after their show Thursday, April 26. "We are a touring band," said bassist Jet Beres. "We enjoy writing music, but not as much as we love touring. People come to our shows and say, 'Now I get it!'"

Sister Hazel began in the college town of Gainesville, Fla., when lead vocalists Ken Block and Drew Copeland were looking for a bassist for their new band. Beres was the first to answer the ad, and lead guitarist Ryan Newell and drummer Mark Trojanowski joined up a little later. "And the rest is history," said Beres.

Beres said he began playing bass guitar in the seventh grade. "No one else wanted to play the bass and I wanted to play with the cool kids who were in the band," he said. Beres said from there he learned to love instruments in general and soon picked up piano as well, where he began

writing songs.

Beres went on to play in several bands before the inception of Sister Hazel. "Back when [Sister Hazel] started, there were tons of bands," said Beres. "Live music was in Gainesville. People were in more than one band—I was in three."

The latest album released by Sister Hazel is entitled "Absolutely." The band wanted to take a different route this time around and incorporate their roots in the recording process. Members returned home to Gainesville and found inspiration in places like the first club they played in.

"In the most non-egotistical way possible, I feel this is the best record we've ever made," said Copeland.

Sister Hazel loves to play college towns because it feels like that is where they belong, according to Beres. Beres said that though the band members are all beyond college age, "playing to that crowd feels like the right place for us."

"[College] is where I think a connection is made in what people truly like and feel," said Beres. "It's not like high school when the Top 40 and all that crap are just thrown at you. In college is where you really figure out what you like:

see HAZEL, page D4

International arts open eyes

If you haven't taken advantage in the past of activities such as Clemson Language Partner Program, the international living community in Calhoun, or any other of the various and sundry international awareness events we have on campus throughout the year, you should start now. There is a world of wealth and adventure at Clemson that is almost completely untapped by the majority of our students.

LENA WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

There are a vast number of resources that students could explore in order to broaden their horizons and just to meet new people. For example, the World of Music festival that was hosted in Edgar's last Friday would have been a great opportunity to get involved. It was definitely an eye-opening experience.

The audience was the most eclectic mishmash of cultures and ethnicities showcased by international Clemson students, and the SAA gave out a ton of prizes. The event was

co-sponsored by Gant Intercultural Center and the Student Alumni Association.

Some of the performances included an African/Caribbean dance group, several Pakistani and Indian pop songs, a traditional Egyptian dance, and sung Indian prayers. It went from music one might hear on he radio to classical music to more spiritual and personal numbers. The best part was that the performers were all Clemson students from a variety of backgrounds. It was an opportunity to showcase some of their talents, but to also honor their culture. It was definitely an unforgettable experience.

The World of Music was not the only event during International Awareness week. The first event was traditional Indian music and dance performance by Surabhi on Saturday April 7. The Surabhi Club is a nationwide organization that promotes the sharing of classical Indian music. Three Grammy-winning performers took the stage to share their talents. Gingger and Shankar have previously traveled around the world as a duet,

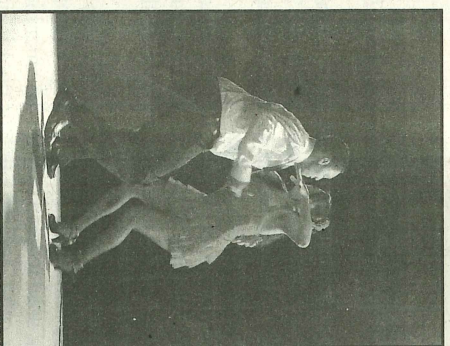
awing audiences with their amazing instrumental and vocal skill. Zakir Hussain also entertained by playing Indian drums, known as tabla.

This was followed by a series of foreign film festivals, such as "Das Experiment," a German film shown in McKissick.

An international photo contest allowed Clemson students to enter any photos they have taken while at home or travelling abroad. The photos were then on display in the Cooper Library for people to admire as they enter the building.

Ten Thousand Villages' gift festival took place during the week as well. Set up in the Hendrix Student Center, the sale offered students the opportunity to peruse unique arts and goods obtained from third-world craftspeople under the guidelines of fair trade.

The World of Dances on Saturday was one of the final events. Spectators saw performances including traditional Indian dances, ballet and hip-hop. The following and final day, people sampled from the International Food Festival on Bowman.



COURTESY OF CHRIS CANNHELL



COURTESY OF CHRIS CANNHELL



COURTESY OF CHRIS CANNHELL



COURTESY OF TOM HAMILTON

ON THE PRAWL

by ORSON SWELLES

This weekend I will be attending a roundtable discussion in Atlanta with Dr. Drew (from "Loveline") to talk about the state of sex and sex journalism on college campuses. The correspondent I have been in communication with said that they do it a few times a year in different locations to see how articles such as this are received and to understand exactly what the sexual atmosphere of various colleges is like.

While I was thinking of things to bring up, I began to wonder: "What is the state of sexual relations like at Clemson?" Knowing people in so many circles and cliques has really fogged my judgment on this fact. I know many people who feel free to discuss whether or not guy X brought as much to the table as guy Y, and whether or not either of them had a clue how to make a girl orgasm.

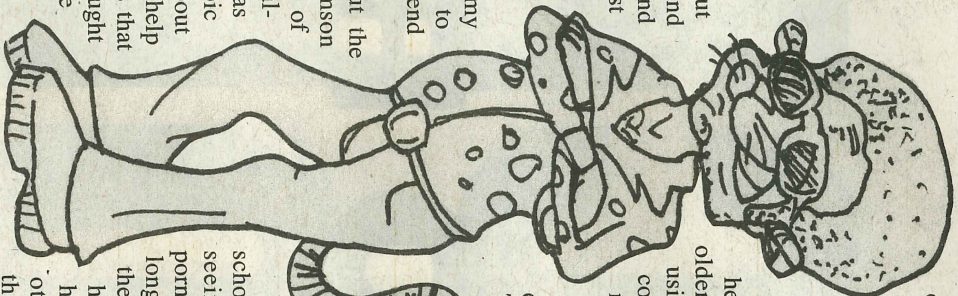
I also know far more people who I feel more awkward talking to about sex than even my parents. Some people are saving their v-cards for true love or marriage, but still have a good sense of humor about it, while others can't even mention the dirty deed without uncontrollable outbursts of blushing.

What I do know is that I am extremely lucky to be able to say

that I have been writing about sexual tips, misfortunes and jokes for two years now and have never had the iron fist of censorship drop down on my words. For the most part, I choose them wisely to avoid forcing the editor to decide whether or not my most recent euphemism has to be changed so as not to offend anyone.

Last week's article about the recent complaint to Clemson police really pulled me out of my bubble and made me realize that not everyone is as hunky-dory about this topic and my freedom to write about it as I imagined. I couldn't help but think about all the times that such an issue has been brought up in the mass media. In the public eye, we are a nation that gets unreasonably up in arms about sexuality, and, for the most part, it's a bit ridiculous.

When I was young, my parents would let me watch movies like "Terminator" and "Predator," as gory and violent as they can be, but slap a pair of boobies somewhere in a movie and it's on the banned list. My mom did all she could to make sure I wasn't tainted by the evil ways of sexuality. However, every-



day I would get on the school bus and hear some fourth grader going on and on about pornography he saw from his older brother and using words that I could barely pronounce for parts of humans I didn't know existed.

The point is, parents can and should do what they can to make sure their elementary school child isn't seeing hardcore pornography all day long, but most of the time the kid has seen and heard more from other children than they could ever imagine. I've heard a lot about books getting banned for using expletives or talking about sex, but this solves nothing because all you are doing is robbing a kid from learning, while not really preventing any sinfulness.

The main goal of parents should be to address what a child hears and sees, and spin it into a safe and

healthy description. If your eight-year-old comes home asking why Johnny said that wee-wees are for sticking in girls, maybe it's time to talk to them about sexuality, while being reasonable and explaining boundaries. I think most of the time it's a parent's lack of discussion about the topic that leads to just-ing and eventually teen pregnancy, where one little talk may have prevented everything.

I apologize for the segue, but a lot of this does have to do with sexuality on a college campus. Especially in a place like Clemson, where religion is so often worn on a sleeve for the world to see, sexuality is buried and repressed, but it is only a matter of time before carnal desires get the best of folks. I hear all the time about rallies for and against diversity, or for and against the prevention of global warming, but how many times has Clemson held something sexual in nature? Maybe we can change the climate a bit. Perhaps every semester there can be a giant safe sex day where we give out condoms, lube and female contraceptives and encourage people that instead of binge drinking that night, go and have a night full of foreplay and safe sex.

I bet that last concept sounded absurd to many of you. But why? Why has it come to the point that encouraging a common human need is so wrong? If I told you all to treat yourselves and get an ice cream tonight, no one would think anything about it. Do you know how much dangerous sugar

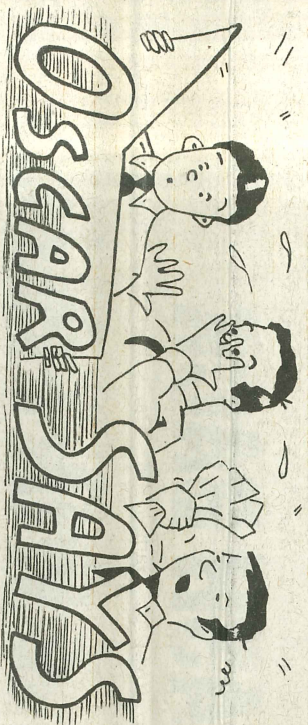
and saturated fat is in ice cream? With sex at least you are burning calories.

Just because sex is still so oddly taboo, it doesn't mean it doesn't have an impact. Do you remember Betamax tapes? Probably not because VHS became the standard in the 80s. Why did VHS get chosen over the superior technology of Betamax? The main reason for the adoption of this format was because the porn industry decided to use it, and that is not a lie. Blu-ray and HD-DVD are going through the same battle right now, and porn has not made up its mind to adopt a standard or not. When they finally do switch, change to that standard because it's likely to stick.

Let's face it: sex sells and Americans love their sex. I mean, Ted Haggard was one of the wealthiest and most influential televangelists, but his empire came crashing down because he could not resist the sexual temptations of a sexy gay hooker. I'm not pushing for us all to go out and get man-whores, but wouldn't it be nice to at least be able to joke about it without being considered obscene and decidedly low-class?

Well, it's nearing the end of the semester, and next year is a new group of students to inform and offend. So until then, have some sex and don't feel like you have to hide it.

Want more action?
Check out Caroline's
comic on page D6!



Well, anyway, it was only the NIT, not the NCAA.

It's okay to bleed orange, but having orange-ish skin is a whole different tiger.

Campus sweep was a great success, but on Monday morning everything promptly to being caked in pollen.

Of course we want to make it to the Top 20. It's easier for some of us, we just get lost after using all our fingers and toes to count.

All the girls who wear running shorts to class aren't fooling anybody.

He had something funny to say about the cup, but he doesn't remember much and has a weird bow-tie tan line.

How many more weeks of school?!?! Great! I still have a few more weeks to put off all those projects.

The real reason DCIT changed its name is now they too can complain about how DCIT messed up their computers.

Cs and Ds do not really earn degrees. Deal with it.

The best way to avoid being accosted on the library bridge is to limp around on crutches. No one messes with the helpless.

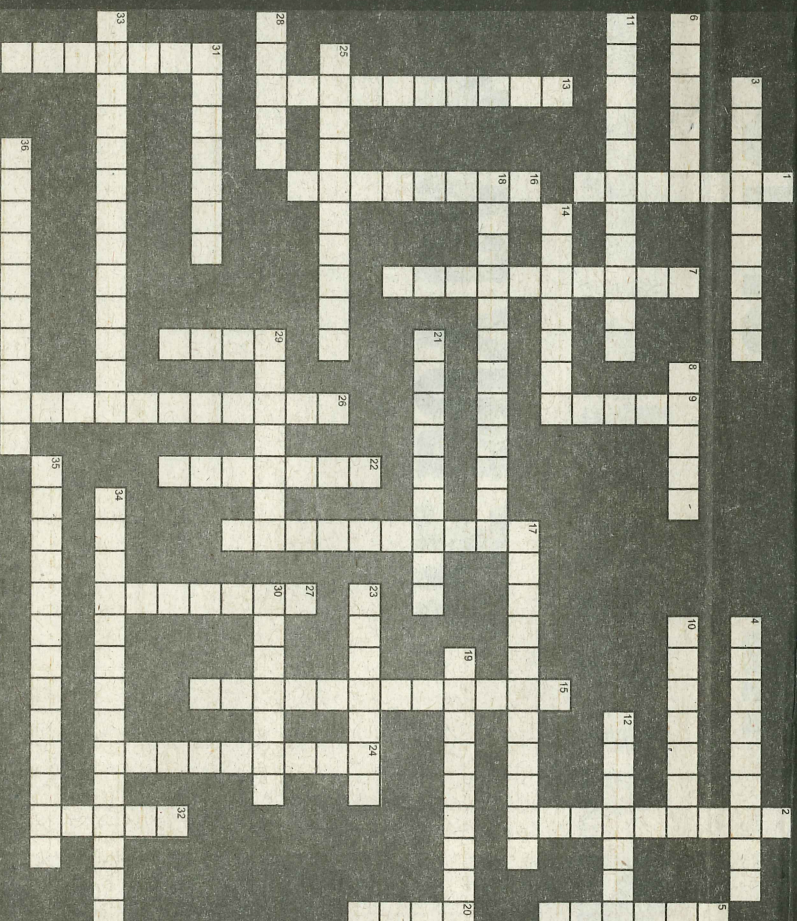
Briney Spears' head-shaving incident was only an attempt to cover her bad parenting tactics.

Sorry, Sister Hazel. You are just not good enough to make it inside Littlejohn Coliseum.

If you find a "Hooray Armadillo" sticker, you might just win \$100.

What! JACKPOT!

CROSSWORD



Across:

- 3 Blank resource
- 4 Engine discharge
- 6 Available power
- 8 Pertaining to the sun
- 10 Sharing arrangement
- 11 Coal, petroleum and natural gas
- 12 State of atmosphere
- 14 To travel regularly
- 17 Aggregate of surroundings
- 18 Prudent management
- 19 Oak, cherry, maple or mahogany
- 21 72 mph+ wind speed
- 23 Slow-moving ice

Down:

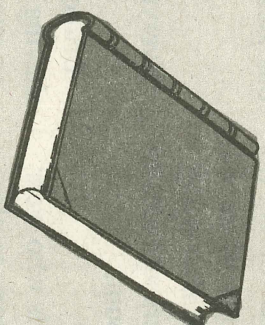
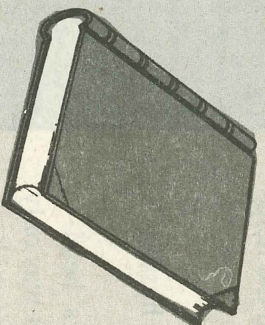
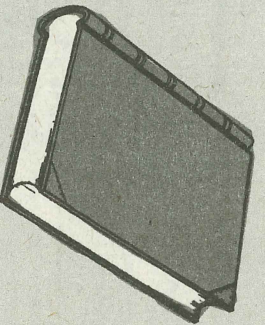
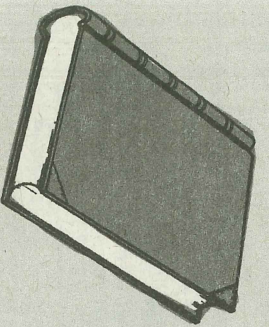
- 1 Make suitable suitable for reuse
- 2 Harmful substances derived from two heterogeneous
- 5 Derived from two and blue
- 9 Stratosphere member
- 13 Earth's Envelope
- 15 Melting giants
- 16 Byproduct of industry
- 17 Threatened with extinction
- 20 Prevalent in L.A.
- 22 Fuel derived from corn
- 24 Functioning at the ideal
- 26 Clear-cutting victim
- 27 Decaying mixture
- 29 Chlorofluorocarbons
- 31 Deplete
- 32 Between yellow and blue

Solutions on Page D4

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M-TH: 8AM-8PM
FRI: 8AM-6PM
SAT & SUN: 10AM - 5PM

Reviews

Movies:
"Spider-Man 3," May 4

In "Spiderman 2," we saw that the adapted comic book series could focus just as much on story-telling as it does on action. In No. 3, that trend continues with Peter Parker fighting his inner desire for vengeance; not to mention a whole host of villains. Parker's former friend, Harry Osborn (James Franco), takes on the role of the Green Goblin, and Oscar-nominee Thomas Haden Church, as Sandman, is sure to deliver as one of the most incredible CGI characters ever. Plus, don't forget to look for Topher Grace, who trades in the laughs of "That 70s Show" as a nerdy, neurotic stoner to play... well... a nerdy, prickish rival reporter who might just push Parker over the edge. Once he makes his transformation in the film, though, I don't think anybody will want to crack jokes- stay tuned. Get ready for Spidey to spin his web, because this is one film you're sure to get caught up in!

MEREDITH HUMPHREY

 STAFF WRITER

playing Sao Feng, a Chinese pirate. And come on, who isn't tempted to see it just for the eye candy? Johnny Depp and Orlando Bloom?



"Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix," July 13

Hmm... let's see: Harry's first kiss, a new director (again!), yet another Defense Against the Dark Arts teacher and Voldemort's back! The most successful movie franchise since "Indiana Jones" and the James Bond series doesn't show any signs of slowing down. Of course, "Order of the Phoenix" is supposedly going to be the shortest installment yet, so you have to wonder what they are going to cut out. (God help you, David Yates, if I don't see any Quiditch!) Still, this will definitely be the movie-going event of the summer. It might even be the most popular Potter film yet thanks to the hype over the seventh and final novel hitting book stores just eight days later. Rejoice, Potterphiles, because after reading *The Deathly Hallows*, we'll have to find some way to go on living....

CDs:

Bjork, "Volta" May 8

The legendary swan princess of Iceland is scheduled to release a new album on May 8. TimeOut guesses she deserves a little bit of credit as she is apparently immune to her own lack of style and public displays of embarrassment. Her past endeavors have ranged from folk music to electronica, so "Volta" should provide entertainment for listeners of all genres....

Gretchen Wilson, "One of the Boys" May 15

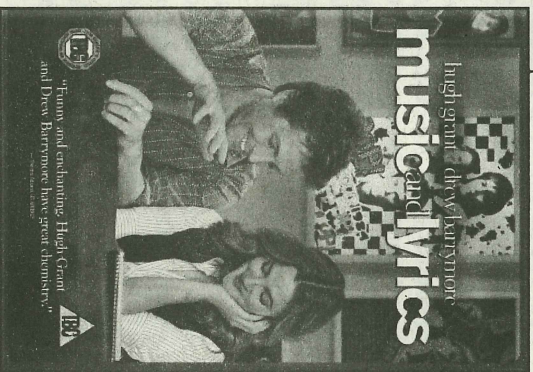
What more can you expect from a country star who found her beginnings in a trailer park located in Pochontas, Ill.? Apparently the answer is another dose of country-turned-pop. Wilson's first big hit, "Redneck Woman,"

describes her blue-collar roots (basically living in poverty in a po-dunk town). Tracks on her new album include "Come to Bed" and "You Don't Have to Go Home." Single, anyone?

DVDs:

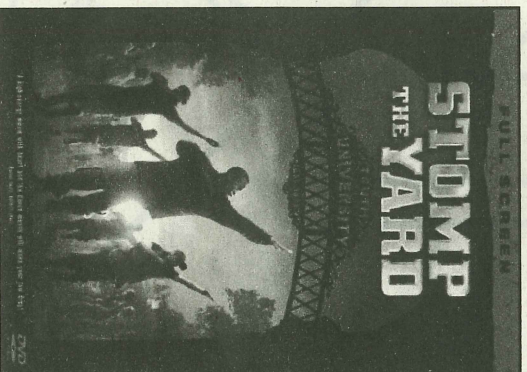
"Music and Lyrics," May 8

Drew Barrymore and Hugh Grant team up in a romantic comedy that may or may not have the critics raving (but probably not). Alex Fletcher (played by Grant) is an 80s pop star trying to break back into the business. In order to impress the big wigs, Fletcher must seek the professional stylings of Sophie Fisher (played by Barrymore). After overcoming various relationship issues, the two obviously pursue a romantic relationship. Make sure to grab this off the shelf if you feel the need to relive the Hugh Grant prostitute scandal.



"Stomp the Yard," May 15

This box office hit is finally being released to a video store near you. The film details the life of DJ, a guy in transition from the streets of LA to Truth University in Atlanta, Ga. Upon arrival, he discovers stepping and eventually ends up on a fraternity's team. The end result is a fierce competition. TimeOut can't give away the end, all we saying is it's a must-see.



their harmonious instruments can only be classified as a reprieve from the dry, decrepit and carcinogenic repertoire of the incessant modern and pop-country music libraries. Plus, the outfits are thankfully lacking the air of an old Western film.

The three members of this band are Pete Bernhard, Lucia Turino and Cooper McBean. Pete plays the guitar, Lucia plays the upright base and Coop plays the guitar and banjo.

When first encountering this band, I thought it to be another bluegrass or alternative country band that did not quite fit the genre. But with further enjoyment of the band, I had an outright epiphany that this was a luminary of the long defunct and disheveled music known as country.

Indeed, with my Herculean insight in discerning music, I

THE TOP 5

WORST SUMMER VACATION SPOTS

Summer school: How about spending a good ole summer at Clemson University? Or even better—Tri-County Tech?

MICHAEL HUNLEY
CHRIS JAYNES

LINDSAY BRASINGTON

 STAFF WRITERS

Not really our idea of "Have A Great Summer." It is true you'll get to spend the season here in one of the most beautiful places in South Carolina, but "summer" and "school" should never be placed next to each other in a sentence. I can't really imagine getting a well-rounded education when a perfect day is starting in the window at you. Not to mention the fact that you'll have approximately two classmates.

Myrtle Beach: This may seem like an obviously bad choice, but if you planned on visiting Myrtle Beach then apparently you need to be reminded of the horrors that await you in the dredges of Horry County. The Pavilion was an "amusement park" that attracted more Sketchy McSketchertons than kids, and this was supposed to be the crown jewel of the Redneck-Mecca. My idea of vacation doesn't include spending all my money on Bud Light and t-shirts with rebel flags on it. Really, Eagles, how many key chains and towels does one need? Family trips should not be made in an El Camino. Fitting all the kiddies in a truck bed (or whatever it is) and driving up and down is a little too close to the NASCAR experience for me to relax.

Laguna Beach: Sure, it's nice to dream about being as rich, beautiful and shallow as the characters from MTV's hit "Reality Show," but would you really want to vacation there? One day has more drama than a week-long marathon of Lifetime movies. And what exactly would you do all day? The only thing the characters do on the show is drink and have sex, does Laguna Beach even have a Taco Bell? Or a Target? Hell, what about a Hobby Lobby?

Kazakhstan: Made famous from last year's hit comedy "Borat," the welfare of this country was most certainly satirized by the filmmakers (Kazakhstan's government was furious with Sacha Baron Cohen's depiction, appropriately enough). But seriously, who are you going to believe — the government of the ninth-largest territory in the world or the actor who played the funny lemur in "Madagascar"?

La France: Oh, La France: So mysterious and enticing, but also really skeezy. The fact that it's not even on Wikipedia is not a good thing. Imagine spending a fun-filled summer in the woods of a town known mainly for the fact that it has Me-Maw's Diner. And unfortunately, the wonder of La France is not often experienced by Clemson students, which might be a good thing. A jaunt through the town will reveal that, essentially, it takes about five minutes to drive through. Nevertheless, behold the beauty of La France: there's Me-Maw's, of course, and the La France post office and La France Elementary and yeah, that's about it.



had found music that can only be described as a proxy of what country used to be. What the typical local resident might classify as country is a far cry from the reality of what this band epitomizes.

But in an effort to convince you all to not make me patronize you, I would say add at least one of their three albums currently released to your collection. The compilations are their self titled albums; "Longjohns, Boots, and a Belt" and "A Little Bit Faster And A Little Bit Worse."

Now, as little hope as I have for people actually buying complete albums, in chance they have purchased a true album, in a compact disk or vinyl form and under the extremely unlikely circumstances that you would actually listen to the entire thing, I would at least suggest the songs "Never Learn," "The Plank,"

"Chained to the Couch," "Old No. 7" and "Bangor Mash."

Literally, they are something to be had and as well thought about. In the song "Chained to the Couch," off the self-titled, the content is everything any person of intelligence could want. It references the idea that indoctrination of ideals on the young is a bad thing, and that in some sense, living your life the way others have outlined it rather than coming to whatever conclusions on your own is a bad thing.

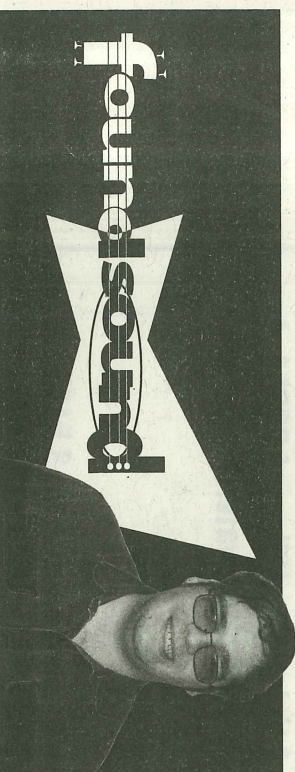
It is also catchy enough for everyone else who wants to listen to the flavor of the minute, (basically everyone I have met).

But, as part of my ethical and righteous duty towards attempting to help those who are in need of some help, I part by saying please, for the sake of some higher being, do some good and listen to some good.



"Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End," May 25

The tale of the infamous Jack Sparrow continues in the third and final "Pirates of the Caribbean" film. The tale picks up where "Dead Man's Chest" left off- Jack Sparrow stuck on the Flying Dutchman, Elizabeth Swann and Will Turner uniting with the evil Captain Barbosa and the East India Company, who is gaining control over sea-tyrant Davy Jones. The battle between good and evil takes the sea-farers to where else but the world's end. TimeOut doesn't want to give away the end of the movie, but let's just say it involves Chow Yun-Fat



Howdy you all, I'm back for another column of my immaculate and totally bodacious musical knowl-

edge. This week I happened across a huge surprise. It surprised me as does the

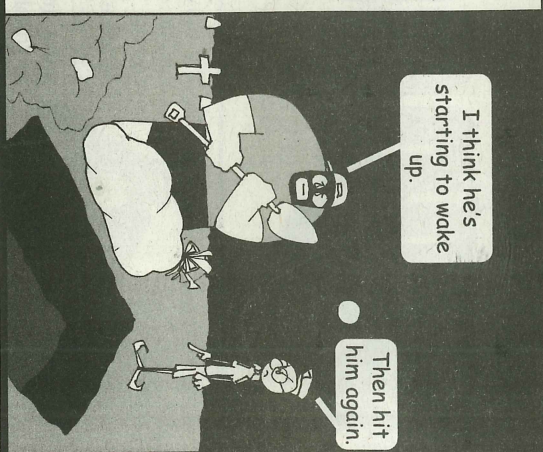
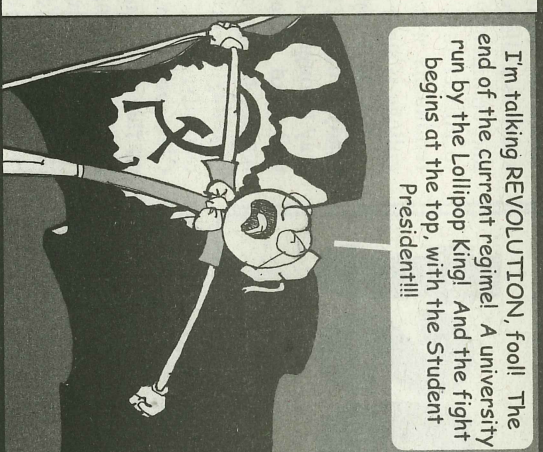
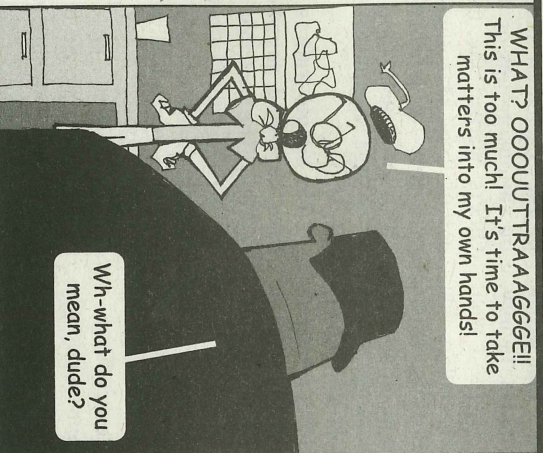
fact that the average Clemson student is when they find out that life can exist outside of working and trying to get married. I have actually found a coun-

JOSEPH INGALLINERA

 STAFF WRITER

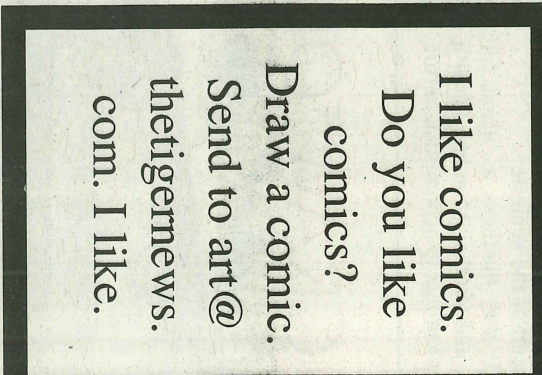
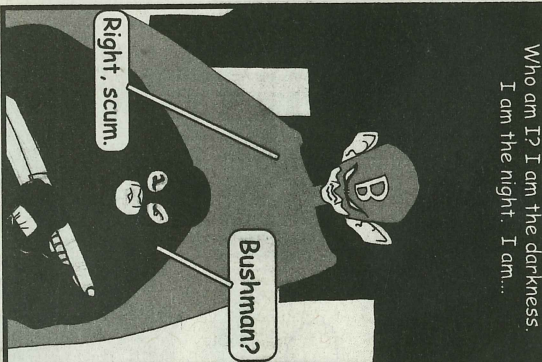
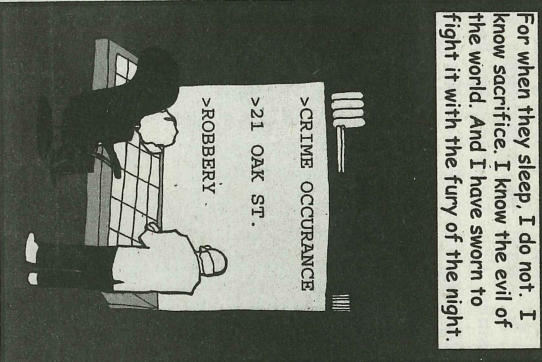
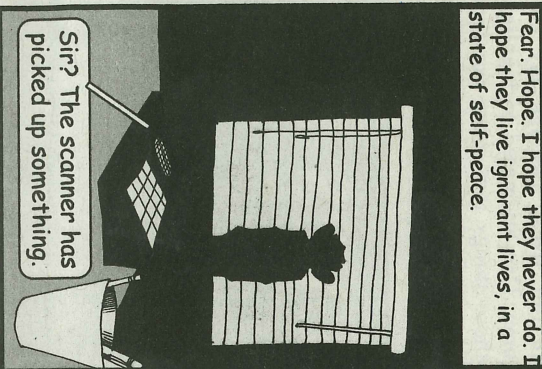
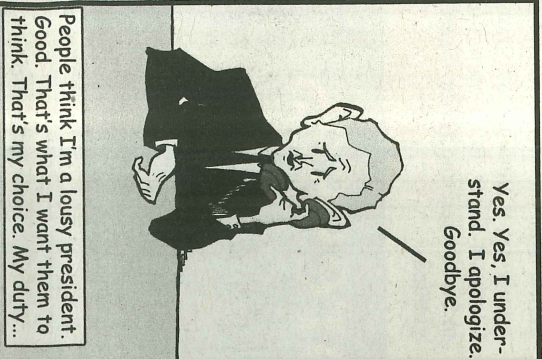
Tiger Funnies

LOLLIPOP KING

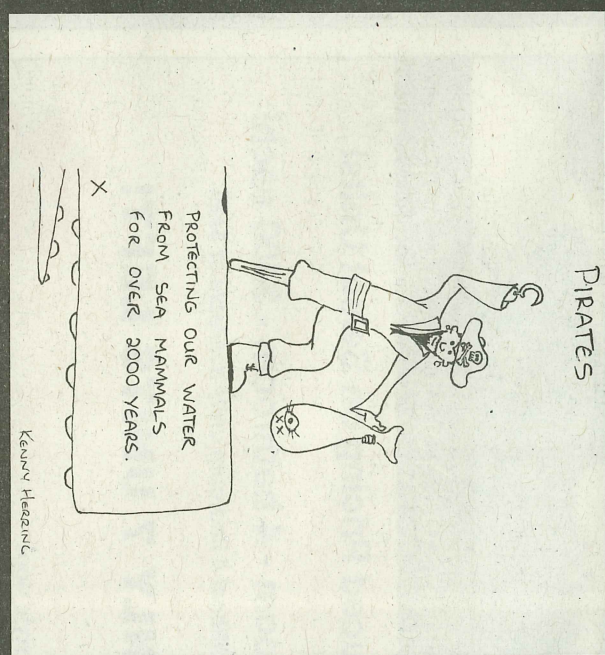


Alex Lay

BUSHMAN



Alex Lay

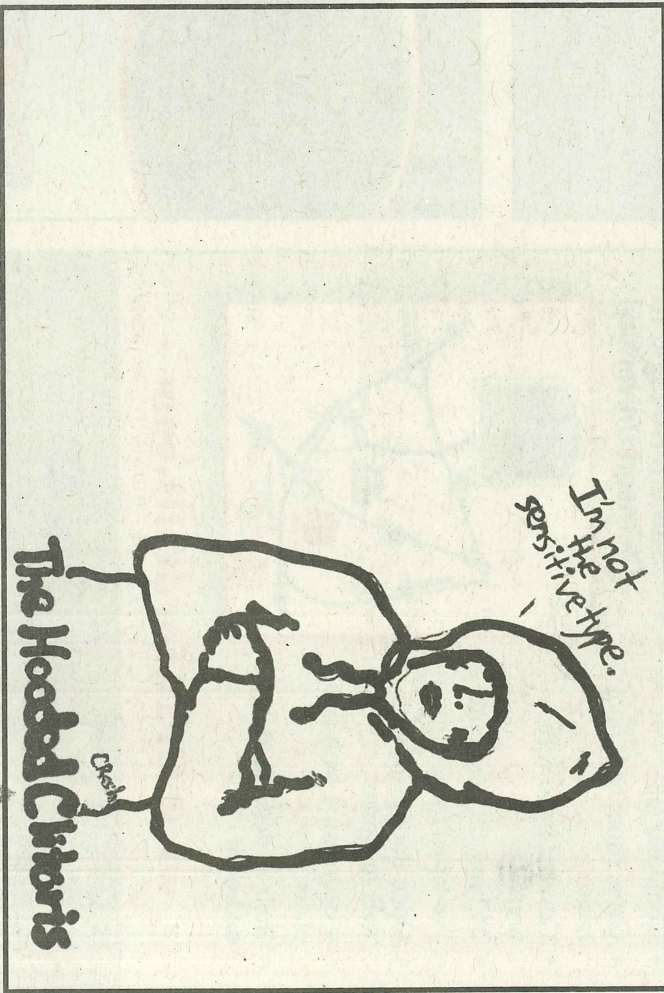


SAMMY MCPSYCHO



Alex Lay

INSPIRATIONS FROM ON THE PROWL



C. Rash

The Signpost



LIZ HUNTER
.....
ASSISTANT PHOTO EDITOR

On Monday morning, I woke up just like all of you, to start yet another week - one week closer to the end of the semester.

It was business as usual for me, just another Monday. I had a list of things to accomplish before

the day was done, a list that included writing my last column for the year. It was going to be a bittersweet event for me. Though I'm as burnt out as ever at this point in the semester and ready to finish up with everything, I've really enjoyed writing this column.

Stressful as it can be, I'll miss it. Writing for The Tiger has been a constant challenge and, accordingly, a constant source of fulfillment. I've tried to touch on the good and the bad; all of the things

that, collectively, go into making this student body what it is. I've made fun of every clique I could think of, I've been sarcastic, and every now and then, I'd like to think that I've made an occasional insight.

Through the good weeks, the bad weeks, and the off weeks, my attempt has always been to relate the experiences that we all share as college students, faculty, and community members. I want to collect little observations that remind us why this thing called college is such a great thing.

On Monday morning, I was ready to dig in, to joke and jab my way through a carefully arranged, 600-word reflection of what it means to be a college student in today's world, and more specifically, what it means to be a Clemson Tiger. Then, I turned on the news, and, as you all now know, that changed everything.

I won't even begin to express the feelings I've had over the last few days regarding the tragedy that has occurred. I don't even know if the word tragedy is sufficient for an event that is every bit as unconceivable as it is a reality.

It would be pretentious to assume that my feelings have been any different than the feelings we're all experiencing, so

I won't attempt to describe or express them.

Still, though, I am faced with a deadline, an unwritten column, and the sudden realization of how insignificant any of my words would be at this point in time.

After Monday's terrifying events, people rushed to many different quick conclusions. Some people reacted by placing blame on various groups or individuals. Others warped the tragedy into a tool used as a means to support specific political agendas. Still others questioned the safety of college campuses around the nation.

The simple truth is, this could have happened anywhere and at anytime. The fact that a calamity of this magnitude occurred on a college campus, was committed by a college student, and claimed the lives of so many other students and faculty just adds to the bitter heartbreak. So many young lives were cut short, during the time when they were just beginning to find their purpose, and direction in life.

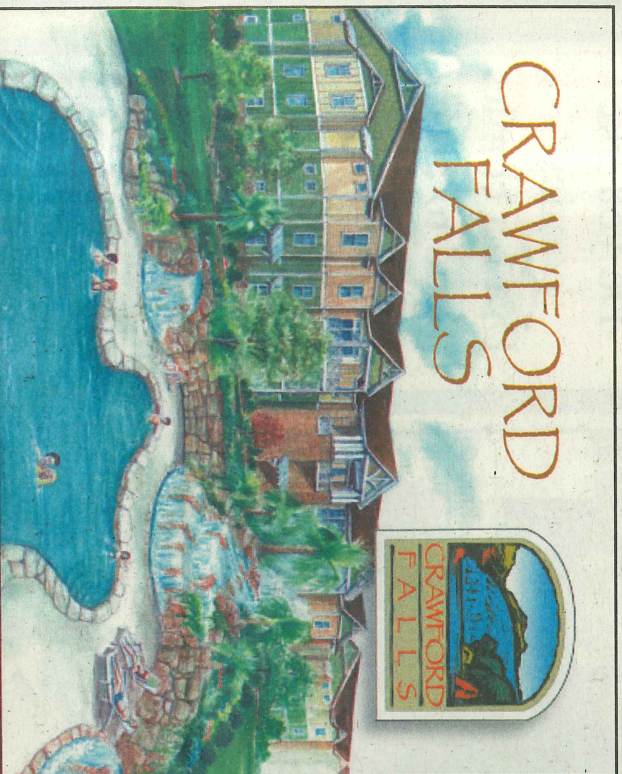
College is like no other time in our lives. Through my column, I've attempted to highlight those things that make our time here so special. College is a time for growth, for mistakes, for dis-

covery, for realization, for disillusionment, for ends, but most importantly, for beginnings. To think that the beginnings of so many bright young people were cut short, so senselessly extinguished—it is beyond comprehension.

The best we can do in a time like this is to remember the lives that were lost and use this event as an opportunity to reevaluate our own lives and purpose. We should turn tragedy into an opportunity to rededicate ourselves to the goal that college students and faculty everywhere, including those 33 at Virginia Tech, have worked to accomplish.

We should remember that we are here to further ourselves, to make mistakes, to grow, and to learn about our world so that we can become competent assets to society and humanity as a whole. We're here to begin.

I hope you all finish your semesters strong and with minimal frustration, and have happy, productive, growth-filled and safe summers. Come back to the foothills in August, ready to show the nation and the world why being a university student, and being a Clemson Tiger, is an opportunity to be revered and never taken for granted.



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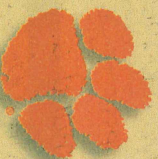
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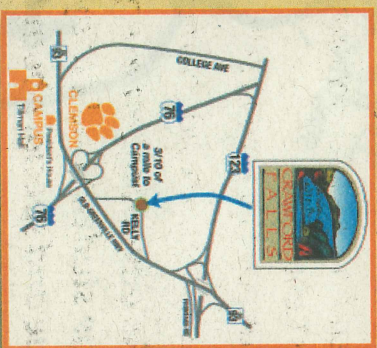
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Bright Eyes Impresses

Indie music keystone Bright Eyes, with Conor Oberst at the forefront, has released "Cassadaga." The album presents

a more mature yet still just as mellow sound with a few gems and a Staff Writer

MEREDITH HUMPHREY
.....
STAFF WRITER

will be loved solely by diehard fans.

Bright Eyes, which is composed of Oberst and musicians Mike Mogis and Nate Walcott, has already been highly praised for their previous albums. They have fortunately made enough to hook and keep indie audi-

ences with albums "Letting Off the Happiness," "Fever and Mirrors," "Oh Holy Fools," "Lifted or the Story is in the Soil," "Keep Your Ear to the Ground," "I'm Wide Awake," "It's Morning," and "Noise Floor."

The album was named after the Cassadaga Spiritualist Camp in Florida. There 55 people, including 25 mediums, who live and worship together. Basically Spiritualism's focus is that there is no one God but that all should have a personal experience with Him to guide their life. The theme of spiritualism is continued on the CD cover as it appears to be simply black and white until the buyer opens the folds to find a small decoder that reveals meaningful sayings and religious pictures.



In "Cassadaga," Oberst's sometimes soothing and other times unnerving voice does not match the music but rather rests atop the background music as the lyrics touch on love (obviously), gruesome war, drugs and even rehabilitation. The first track could be completely thrown out and when heard once will never be

listened to

upbeat is the "If the Brakeman Turns My Way" with references to many cities—and many drugs—as the speaker struggles with his addiction. With sedatives, cocaine, opium and a "psychedelic angel" he is a "repeat first time offender" who has rewritten history.

Another strong track is "Make a Plan to Love Me" as he sings about a woman who seems to be thriving in the business world and he is humbly asking for her to pencil in a time to care for him. "You said you had your foot in the door/You pry and you sell, you buy some more/Make a plan to love me sometime soon." The themes of love and duty politics seem to be combined in "No One Would Riot For Less." The art of death is everywhere as the war is consumed with war and so love must be had whenever possible in case it is one's final chance.

While "Cassadaga" has many strong tracks that grow on the listener as each track becomes more distinct, one must be in right mindset for the feel of Bright Eyes' slow and sometimes dampening mood with his lyrics and waning voice. For instance "Middleman" is interrupted with a voice in the background saying words that often label people like "Jesus freaks" and "garbage collectors" which is not something that everyone is dying to hear when they get out their iPod.

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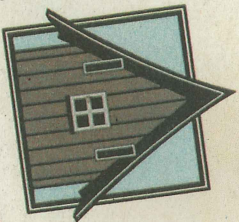
50

Things To Do Before You Graduate

by Liz Hunter and Michael Hunley

- 'a good idea, at some point.
40. Protest something. We are in college, right?
 39. Think of a new place to have sex on campus other than the football field or the library to **appease your PDAneds**. Try the Carillon Gardens if you're brave.
 38. Write a paper at least a week in advance.
 37. Try to catch Frank, the elusive groundhog.
 36. **Read an issue of The Tiger from front to back.**
Do it now.
 35. Get on the Jumbotron at a football game.
 34. Go to McClure's Bookshop downtown.
 33. Speak in a British accent all day long and pretend like you don't know what anyone is talking about when they ask you about it. **Call everyone "guv'nah."**
 32. Order the Tiger Burger at Ancheaux's.
 31. Create a mutant hybrid between the two most prominent Clemson animals: the tiger and the squirrel. We shall call it **the "squiger."**
 30. Make friends with a professor.
 50. Visit and have your picture taken with the **mystery goo** that leaks from the Strode Tower basement walls. Experience the magic.
 49. After every major point your professor makes, exclaim, "Amen!"
 48. Enjoy **barbeque and bluegrass** at Jus' More BBQ.
 47. Survive a visit to Deafem without taking a pregnancy test. This goes for boys too.
 46. **Leave your mark** on the bathroom walls at the library. Eww. Not that. Gross. We meant the graffiti.
 45. Visit the top of the bell tower in Tillman.
 44. Give your professor a hug. They need love too.
 43. Buy an orange shirt.
 42. Try to create a new hotspot to sunbathe. We recommend the library bridge.
 41. Declare a major. That would probably be
 29. Make it through a football weekend without getting wasted.
 28. Spend time in the sauna in the Fike locker rooms. Please note that **clothing is not optional**. No one wants to see your goodies.
 27. Interrupt class for Hammer Time.
 26. Support local Clemson businesses.
 25. Go to the Botanical Gardens **without the intention of hooking up**. For once.
 24. Take advantage of the "free" toilet paper on campus.
 23. Get a hangover from hell at TD's.
 22. Rent/buy every season of Veronica Mars because it's the greatest show ever. **Shameless plug?** Maybe. Whatever. Veronica would approve.
 21. Eat something other than a sub or pizza downtown. Good luck.
 20. Take a spur-of-the-moment road trip with friends. When else will you be able to just pick up and go?
 19. **Drink in the shower**. Why, you ask? Isn't the more relevant question, "Why not?"
 18. Order an Atlas pizza from Columbo's and have a contest to see who can eat the most slices.
 17. Join a club and climb the ladder. You're going to have to make a resumé at some point.
 16. **Skinny-dip** in Lake Hartwell.
 15. Take a PhD. Post Harcombe Dump.
 14. **Spend the night** in the library. Make sure to bring a pillow and blanket.
 13. Rub the Rock. It is good. Or so we've heard.
 12. Get a pizza delivered to your most boring class, Spicoli style. Make sure to **offer your professor** a slice.
 11. Freak your roommate out by staring and when she asks why you're staring, answer, "Why not?"
 10. Go to Mac's Drive-In and order up a coronary heart attack with a side of fries. **Hold the lettuce.**
 9. Wear your pajamas to class but insist that it is the latest fashion you saw on Laguna Beach.
 8. **Take the Walk of Shame**. Better yet, make it through college without taking the Walk of Shame.
 7. Throw a Dance Dance Revolution party. Don't judge its greatness.
 6. Demand a re-take on an exam claiming that your evil twin took it the first time and bombed it on purpose. Crazier things have happened.
 5. **Hit on your professor**.
 4. Learn the alma mater.
 3. Attend a Clemson performing arts production at the Brooks Center.
 2. Streak across Bowman Field. This only applies to certain people. You know who you are.
 1. **Take advantage of every minute you have as a college student and always keep in mind what is unique and special about being a Clemson Tiger.**

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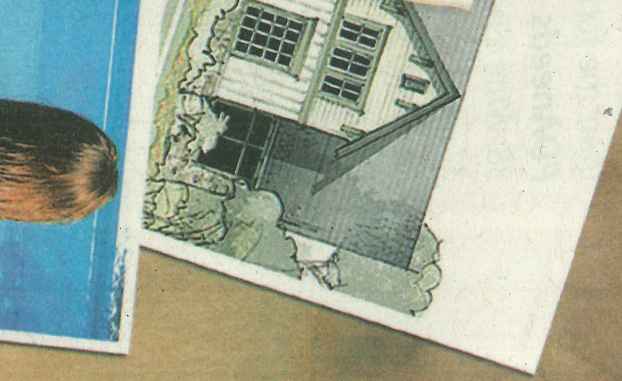
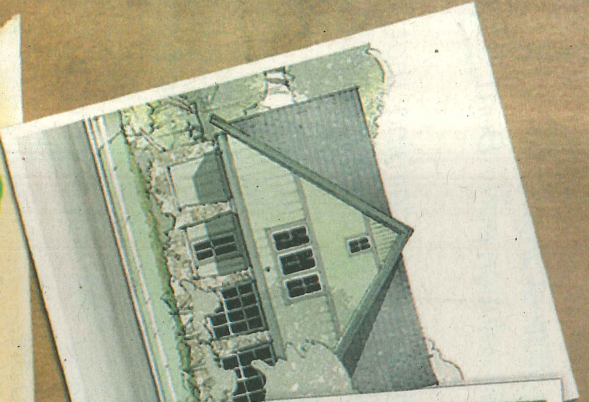
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