

the Seahawk

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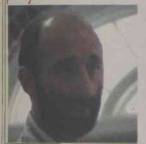
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Seahawk Shocker!

UNCW hits second round for first time

JESSIE NUNERY

STAFF WRITER

College basketball fans would have thought that UNCW stood for UNC-Who early last week. But after the Seahawks danced their way to Sacramento, Calif. and knocked off the fourth-seeded USC Trojans, UNC Wilmington was put on the map.

Behind 18 points from Brett Blizzard and 21 points from Craig Callahan, the Seahawks took a nail-biting 93-89 overtime victory for their first-ever NCAA Tournament win.

The Seahawks, who led by as many as 19 points in the second half, played arguably their best collective game of the season, getting



Guard Tom Coverdale tries to keep up with Seahawk guard Brett Blizzard during Saturday's game against Indiana. Blizzard led both teams with 29 points.

contributions from each player who stepped onto the court. Forwards Ed Williams and Anthony Terrell continued their consistent play, with Williams knocking in important free-throws and Terrell pulling down nine rebounds.

Even more impressive was the play of sophomore guard Joel Justus, who came off the bench to score 10 points, including a few acrobatic shots to preserve the Seahawk lead.

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Church attendance falls

After a rise near Sept. 11, church levels are now back to normal

RYAN JESSUP

STAFF WRITER

The nation's church attendance has beenickle since the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

National attendance of religious ceremonies increased significantly shortly after the attacks. However, by November numbers were back down, and after six months attendance looks similar to the weeks before the attacks.

The Harris interactive poll indicated that during the week of the attacks 82 percent of Americans prayed or attended a religious service, according

to information from the ABC News Web site.

"In a period of crisis, people look for something that is stable and comforting, so they end up turning to the church," said Melvin Hall, director of missions of the Wilmington Baptist Association.

The Barna Research Group, an online group that has been devoted to gathering data about the Christian

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Art exhibit honors women



Bright colors and repeated shapes illustrate Alison S. Spiesman's "Dear John." Spiesman's work is currently on display in the Warwick Center. See story page 9.

BOG approves tuition increase

HEATHER GRADY

NEWS EDITOR

The final nod of approval from the UNC Board of Governors on a system-wide tuition increase came from a meeting held earlier this month.

The board approved a 9 percent increase in tuition in all of the UNC system's 16 schools, in addition to approving the campus requested tuition hike at \$200 and a \$135 increase in student fees, which is only a portion requested by the board of trustees earlier this year. Other debt service construction fees will be approved as the need for the funds arises according to construction schedules.

According to the BOG approved hikes, tuition for next year's in-state Seahawks will rise to \$2,826.

Overall, the increases across the state will raise \$39 million for the system's schools, according to wire reports.

Officials are also predicting a \$1.2 million shortfall in next year's state budget, so students will likely see future increases to account for the budgetary crisis of recent years. Those numbers will not be finalized until near the end of the summer when the General Assembly meets for budget approval. University administrators cannot make definite plans for next year's Ward, assistant vice fall, said Kay Ward, budget office chancellor.

"At this time we don't know what the final impact will be," Ward said.

University officials are continuing to work on a board mandated five-year tuition plan that reflects the foreseeable tuition and fee increases at all UNC system schools. The final numbers for the plan will be official in the fall, following the approval of the state budget.