

Campus News

Researchers create sketch of Jesus Christ

By Melde Rutledge
Argus Editor-in-Chief

There is arguably no other human figure in the world more recognizable than Jesus Christ.

And even though there are no photographs, most images of him are very familiar: pale, blue eyes and shoulder-length hair.

Well known European artists such as Rembrandt van Rijn, Michelangelo Caravaggio and Raphael supported this likeness in paintings such as *The Last Supper*.

However, with the help of extensive research from historians, archaeologists and biblical scholars from around the world, it's safe to say that the previous renditions of Jesus were inaccurate.

Their careful investigation resulted in a dark-skinned, curly-haired man with a round, robust face and stout nose.

"This certainly doesn't look anything like the images that one associates with him (Jesus), and I think it's much more likely to be an accurate reflection of

the majority of people who would have been around at that time," said Richard Neave, a medical artist at the University of Manchester.

Neave used the skull of a 2,000-year-old Jewish man from Israel to create the composite of Jesus' face.

Final enhancements were used by computer.

The face looks older than Jesus' age of 33, but experts believe that it fits the profile of a person living in that part of the world where the life expectancy was well below 50.

"As I grew up and saw different pictures, I never expressed how I felt because my feeling was the minority, but now this has been brought to bear," said Dr. Cedric Rodney, a James A. Gray distinguished professor of religion and ethics at Winston-Salem State University. "I wouldn't condemn it."

A darker Jesus has also been used by Catholics in the 1999 millennium edition of the *National Catholic Reporter*, an



Internet photo
Researchers say Jesus probably looked more like this, with a stout nose and curly hair.

American independent news weekly.

"They accepted it for what it was back then. We accept it for what it is right now," said Rodney.

"A man is a fool if he doesn't

change his mind because circumstances might prevail that you'll have to change. So that's what has happened. They're trying to put a face that will go along with the environment that Jesus was brought in."

EAT

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obsession and the person doesn't have to lose weight, an eating disorder can arise," said Meehan.

But regardless of how people develop eating disorders, it is important that they know the symptoms and get help before it becomes life-threatening. Bulimia and anorexia nervosa are two of the most common eating disorders on campus. Bulimia is a "binge and purge" syndrome, and is considered the most common college eating disorder.

A bulimic will eat large quantities of food at one sitting, usually gorging on foods that are high in fat and calories, and will then try to get rid of the food before they gain weight by vomiting or by using laxatives, water pills or excessive exercise.

Unlike bulimia, anorexia is a task of strict control over what is eaten, sometimes to the point of starvation. About 1,000 people in the United States die every year from complications of anorexia.

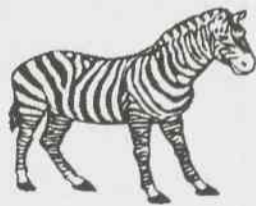
Early treatment is very important. The longer someone suffers, the greater chance of serious medical problems or death. Some medications are helpful in treating these disorders, but the patient should be closely monitored.

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