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Homecoming
A letter from the SGA president, plus a calendar of activities
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Election Special
Will the Democratic Party take Congress or stay Republican? Your vote will decide
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Urban Ministries in downtown Durham feeds hundreds daily
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Campus Echo

Obama may run

The first-term Illinois Senator opened the possibility of a 2006 presidential run on NBC's "Meet the Press," saying that he'll wait until after the Nov. 7 elections to make any announcement.

By DAN BALZ
THE WASHINGTON POST

several months, I have thought about the possibility, but I have not thought about it with the seriousness and depth that I think is required," Obama said on NBC's "Meet The Press."

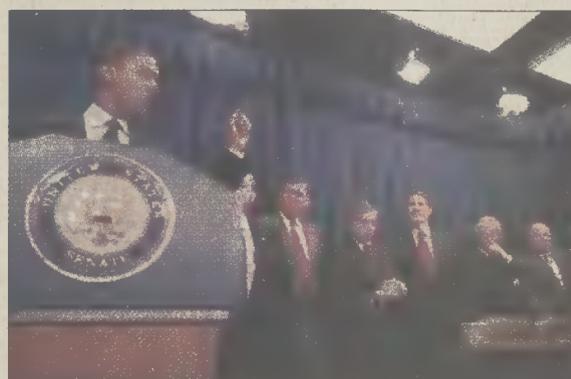
"After November 7th, I'll sit down and consider it, and if at some point I change my mind, I will make a public announcement and everybody will be able to go at me."

Until Sunday, Obama, one of the brightest stars in the party since electrifying the 2004 Democratic National Convention with his keynote address, had said he planned to serve out the full six years of his Senate term, which would have ruled out a presidential or vice presidential campaign in 2008.

But Democrats around the country have encour-

aged him to consider a campaign and there has been fevered speculation inside the party about the possibility that he will do so. His advisers have been forced to adjust timetables for a possible run in later elections and have begun to do the research that will help Obama make his decision.

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Barack Obama addresses a press conference as Senate Democratic and Republican leaders discuss a compromise immigration bill April 6, 2006 in Washington, D.C.

OLIVIER DOULIERY/Abaca Press/KRT

WASHINGTON — Sen. Barack Obama, D-Ill., opened the door to a 2008 presidential campaign Sunday, saying he has begun to weigh a possible candidacy and will make a decision after the November elections.

"Given the responses that I've been getting over the last

CBS shows weak case

2nd dancer changes story

By RONY CAMILLE
ECHO EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

It's been more than seven months after the alleged rape of a 27-year-old N.C. Central University female student by members of the Duke University lacrosse team, but the national media attention continues.

"60 Minutes," a CBS News program, aired a segment about the case Oct. 15. In the segment three lacrosse team members charged with rape asserted their innocence.

The segment also aired video obtained by CBS News of the alleged victim dancing at a strip club nearly two weeks after she reported the incident to Durham authorities.

The accuser was hired with another woman to dance at a party March 13 at a house owned by Duke University and rented by captains of the lacrosse team.

Kim Roberts, the other dancer at the house on the night of the alleged rape, gave CBS a contradictory account of the events of the evening.

Roberts, in her first account to police said the allegations were "a crock." She later said that something probably happened that night.

In the CBS segment she returned to her original skepticism about the

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Sister Souljah signs her books, "The Coldest Winter Ever," and "No Disrespect" in the L.T. Walker Complex.

KHARI JACKSON/Staff Photographer

AN ARMY OF ONE

Sister Souljah uses words to battle oppression

By GEOFFREY COOPER
ECHO STAFF WRITER

Like a general delivering orders to her troops and then leading them into battle, Sister Souljah marched into N.C. Central University's LeRoy T. Walker Complex on Tuesday, Oct. 24, to deliver an arsenal of encouraging words and positive groundbreaking life lessons.

The delivery of her message came off to some students and faculty as very offensive, but well

needed.

"I curse because I want to," said Sister Souljah. "I am a truthful person with a solid purpose. When I talk about things that I am very passionate about, I have no reason to hide my feelings."

She discussed issues such as black brotherhood and sisterhood, relationships, self-worth, and self-tests of morality, spirituality and mentality.

"It was a speech that everyone on campus should've been required to hear," said business

sophomore Corderro Jenkins. "Sometimes you have to come off a certain way to get the crowd's attention. It definitely got mine."

Born in 1964, Lisa Williamson a.k.a. Sister Souljah, 42, was raised in the dilapidated borough of Bronx, New York.

She grew up fighting her way through racial injustice and economic disparities that threaten blacks and what she encountered on a daily basis.

■ See **SOULJAH** Page 2

Living life with lupus

Two students tell their story

By CANDICE MITCHELL
ECHO STAFF WRITER

Imagine a good day: you feel rested. You have the energy to run to class and stay out late with friends.

Imagine a bad day: your joints hurt so much it's hard to get out of bed. You can't keep your eyes open in class because of fatigue. You can't stay outside because the sun will irritate your skin.

Now imagine that you have a disease most people have never even heard of, a disease in which your body's immune system is attacking your own body's cells and tissues, and that there's no cure.

That's the situation that nursing junior Faith Smith and elementary education sophomore ViAngela Roach live with every day.

Smith and Roach both have a chronic, autoimmune disease called systemic lupus erythematosus. It's commonly referred to simply as lupus. The disease principally affects the joints and the skin, but it also can damage other systems of the body like the kidneys.

Lupus is not infectious. According to the Lupus Foundation of America, about 1.5 million Americans suffer from the disease. It is two to three times

■ See **LUPUS** Page 3



ViAngela Roach prepares to take her daily medication. Roach, 19, was diagnosed with lupus in 2004.

MORINE ETIENNE/Staff Photographer

NCCU boxers a hit on YouTube

By QUENTIN GARDNER
ECHO STAFF WRITER

Students at N.C. Central University are becoming familiar with the latest online hangout — and it's anywhere there's a computer terminal to access YouTube.com.

And some are putting their own videos on the popular free video-sharing website that lets users upload, view and share video clips.

YouTube.com was created

by Chad Hurley, Steve Chen, and Jawed Karim of PayPal, a California-based e-commerce business.

According to a July survey, YouTube surpassed Myspace.com as the 10th most popular website with over 100 million video clips viewed daily.

Approximately 65,000 new videos are uploaded daily.

Computer science juniors Tory Galer and Ryan Wren have placed boxing videos of themselves on YouTube.

"We were bored and frustrated, so we bought two pairs of gloves as a solution to our boredom," said Wren.

The video clips show Wren, Galer and other friends sparring in the kitchen of their Eagle Landing apartment. Last semester, no complaints of noise were filed by any resident assistant or Campus Police, despite these fights

■ See **YOUTUBE** Page 2



"Fight Nights 3, Round 2" as seen on YouTube. NCCU math and computer science junior Tory Galer (left) boxes with an unidentified pugilist.