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**PHOTO FEATURE**

**An Echo photographer takes an after hours stroll through downtown Durham**

Page 6

**A&E**

**CD review: M1 Platoon "Invades" the yard Ottoman-style**

Page 7

**BEYOND**

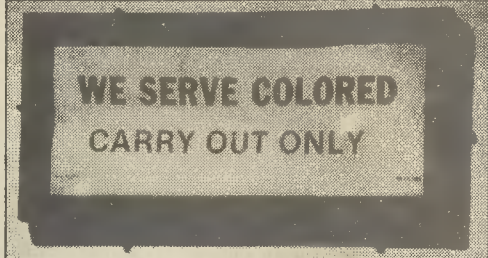
**A twist in federal law has driven up the cost of birth control to college students**

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**CAMPUS**

**Civil rights photography by NCCU's Alex Rivera on display at N.C. Museum of History**

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# Campus Echo

## Nursing turns it around

By VANESSA JACKSON  
ECHO STAFF WRITER

In an impressive turnaround, N.C. Central University's School of Nursing recently received the news that 91 percent of its graduates passed the state's required nursing exam

on the first try, topping both Duke University and UNC-Chapel Hill.

This is after a poor showing on the national licensing exam in previous years. In 2005, NCCU students scored only 65 percent. The following year, the North Carolina Board of Nursing stipulated changes to

NCCU's teaching program.

The state board exam evaluates every nurse on a basic level of competency in order to obtain licensure. However, the nursing program provides students with knowledge that goes far beyond minimum standards.

Lorna Harris, who came to the University in fall 2005 as

chairperson, said she is ecstatic about the board scores.

"It's nice to not have the low passing issue, and it helps the morale of students and faculty," said Harris.

"Students here worked hard."

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Adrienne Stevenson and Stephanie Reed practice on the nursing school's \$100,000 mannequins.  
JAQUELYN HALL/ECHO STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

### STUDENTS PITCH IN | MILLIONS OF MEALS



tumeleng Shadreck, elementary education and psychology junior, helps prepare one of 87,400 meals Wednesday, Jan. 22, to feed people around the world.

BRIAN LATIMER/Echo Staff Photographer

## NCCU and Duke combat hunger

By SADE THOMPSON  
ECHO STAFF WRITER

While many Americans eat three meals a day, citizens of other countries can barely afford even one.

But last Wednesday, N.C. Central University teamed with Duke University to remedy this global issue.

The universities collaborated with the Durham Rotary Club and the Durham community to pre-

pare and package thousands of meals, intending to put a dent in hunger in poor countries, where the food is delivered to schools and relief areas.

Robert L. Chapman, assistant dean of student and program advancement at NCCU, helped spearhead the initiative two years ago, which sends 80,000 meals to such countries as Haiti, Guatemala, Ghana and Bolivia.

"Last year, we had 155,000 (meals); this year we're aiming for

75,000, and next year we want to get 1 million in one day," said Chapman.

He said the program did not raise enough money this year to purchase more packages.

On Wednesday, students formed assembly lines, filling bags of rice and soy mixture, vitamin mix and vegetables.

The bags of food must weigh between 390 to 400 grams in order to be sealed and boxed.

Recipients prepare the bagged

meals by boiling them. The soy comes from Iowa, rice from Alabama and vegetables from Chicago. One meal costs twenty cents.

In order to reach next year's one-million-meal goal, Chapman said he will team up with NCCU food vendor, Sodexo.

The plan is to tally the number of meals not eaten by the students each week. The money not used

■ See **MILLION MEALS** Page 2

## Tubas MIA

**Theft of 11 sousaphones hits Sound Machine hard — and with no forced entry — campus puzzled**

By GEOFFREY COOPER  
ECHO STAFF WRITER

After the theft of five sousaphones over winter break, the members of N.C. Central University's marching band, the Sound Machine, thought they might not make it to Atlanta's 2008 Honda Battle of the Bands Invitational Showcase.

This news came after six other sousaphones and more than 100 other instruments — were reported stolen in November 2007.

A sousaphone is a lightweight tuba used by marching bands. The instrument, named after composer John Philip Sousa, is often referred to as a marching tuba.

Thanks to a loan from Duke University athletic bands, the NCCU band made it to Atlanta's Georgia Dome to dazzle some 70,000 fans.

But NCCU police, students, faculty, staff and administration still wonder how 125 instruments have gone missing since 2005 from the band room in the Edwards Music Building.

According to a Jan. 8 campus police report, 11 sousaphones were stolen; the News and Observer reported 14 missing sousaphones.

"We are currently following every lead that we have, but an arrest at

■ See **THEFT** Page 2



Sound Machine at 2004 Aggie-Eagle Classic  
Echo File Photo

## Dems don gloves

By STEVEN THOMMA  
MCCLATCHY NEWSPAPERS (MCT)

WASHINGTON — Democrats head away from South Carolina Sunday torn between two top candidates — and deeply divided along racial lines that could pull at their party throughout a long and bruising campaign.

Illinois Sen. Barack Obama won the state. But he did it by winning an overwhelming majority of black votes while losing the majority of

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## Is pregnancy an illness?

*NCCU's student health plan won't pick up the tab for abortions*

By AKILAH McMULLAN  
ECHO STAFF WRITER

"Should the majority of students, who are responsible, have to pay an increased premium for the irresponsible student to get an abortion?" asked Charles Bowen, director of student health and counseling services at N.C. Central University.

Like many other universities, NCCU's school-issued insurance does not cover abortion or any other "elective procedures," said

Bowen.

According to the North Carolina Center of Health Statistics, in 2006, 46 percent of minority women between age 20-24 ended their pregnancies in abortion.

A nationwide study conducted by the Alan Guttmacher Institute found that 45 percent of women who have abortions are college-aged (18-24).

At least 80 percent of NCCU undergraduates receive financial aid, and 70 percent are

insured by the school, according to NCCU's financial aid and student health services departments.

"I'd like to say that we have what I believe to be the best in student health insurance policy within the UNC system — and one of the best in the country," said Bowen.

NCCU's student insurance costs \$500 per year. There is no deductible and no co-pay.

The insurance covers up to \$700 in prescription drugs,

including birth control.

The policy also covers pregnancy and delivery expenses.

"It's not designed to be a catastrophic policy," said Bowen.

"If it were a catastrophic policy, the students would not be able to afford to pay for it."

One student, who asked not to be named, has had two abortions since entering NCCU.

"I had the first when I was 17 and the second when I was 20,"

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