

# World News Update

**RACHEL McELWAIN**  
Staff Writer

**U.S. Muslims urge release of journalist**

According to CNN.com, "Representatives from an American Muslim group are in Iraq to join efforts to free U.S. journalist Jill Carroll, who was kidnapped two weeks ago in Baghdad." Carroll, an American journalist was kidnapped on January 7 by the group "Brigades of Vengeance." The group threatened to kill her after 72 hours unless the U.S. military released all women in its custody. The New York Times says, "Members of an American Muslim group arrived to press their appeal for the release of an American journalist as a deadline set by kidnappers passed with no word on her fate." Helicopter missing from quake relief effort

"A helicopter used by the International Committee of

the Red Cross for its Pakistan quake relief operations is missing with seven crew aboard, officials said Sunday," according to CNN.com. After leaving Peshawar and crossing the Afghan border on Saturday, the helicopter lost contact with the air control tower. James Reynolds, deputy head of the ICRC delegation in Pakistan, said Sunday, "There is a large search operation that started yesterday, that is continuing today."

**Kosovo's president dies at 61**

Ibrahim Rugova, the president of Kosovo, died of lung cancer Saturday. According to CNN.com, "U.N. officials say Rugova's death comes at a crucial time -- just as talks on Kosovo's future are set to begin. His death has left a leadership vacuum among Kosovo's ethnic Albanians." The New York Times says, "His absence in Vienna will be felt, analysts say. 'Ru-

gova is an icon,' a deputy in his party, Sabri Hamiti, said, 'He established in Albanian heads the idea of independence, and no one else can have his influence.'

**Explosions in Southern Russia Sever Gas Lines to Georgia**

Early Sunday morning, an explosion disrupted the natural gas pipelines connecting Southern Russia and nearby Georgia. As Russia supplies Georgia with all of its natural gas, the break caused severe gas and electricity shortages. According to the New York Times, "President Mikheil Saakashvili of Georgia said gas flow had ceased and energy rationing would be necessary. He ordered universities closed and said Georgia was seeking fuel from Iran and Azerbaijan." The shortage is expected to last about two days while the gas lines are being repaired.

# First Coffeehouse of the Semester, a Success

**GENEVIEVE BOISVERT**  
Contributing Writer

Have you ever seen the Meredith Coffeehouse publicity? If you don't know what it is, the Meredith Coffeehouse series brings rising performers to Meredith to entertain our students. The Meredith coffeehouses have become an obsession with some of the students at Meredith. From the freshmen, to the faculty, they continue to bring class unity and entertainment to the student center at least once a month.

Last weekend's coffeehouse was host to the talents of Shevy Smith. Shevy is a native of Kansas who works out of Nashville literally playing her music for colleges and universities across

the United States. Most recently, she actually went on the USO tour overseas. An energetic and enthusiastic artist, her creation of lively music leaves you wanting her to play again and again. As she built a 'pyramid of excitement' for her audience with allusions to her own life, it was obvious to all present that she had literally poured her heart and soul into her music.

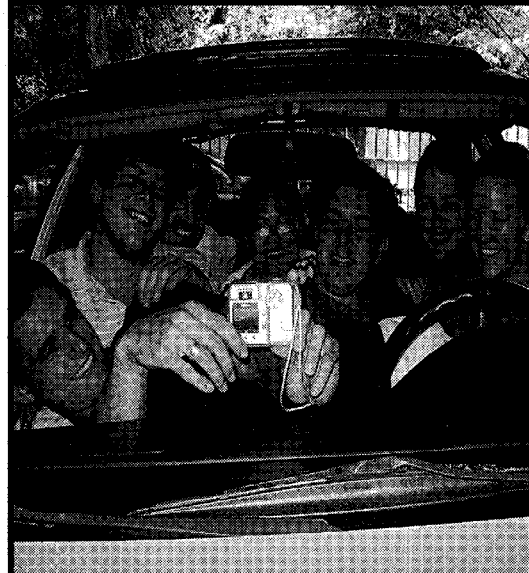
At one point, Shevy Smith Stated that the time had come for the audience participation part of the show. As she played Tom Petty's "Free Falling", all the student center was host to class unity as every member of the audience sang the words, "I'm free, free-falling."

Students enjoyed ice-coffee, cheesecake, and cookies

while relaxing to the twangs of Shevy's guitar in songs like "70's Radio" whilst other students took pleasure in the games provided by the Campus Activities Board. The night was an overall success for Student Activities on the Meredith College Campus. The Meredith Coffeehouses are as Shevy Smith said it, "the safe place and the right place to have fun!"

Like free food? Like good music? Like fellowship between friends? Want to know where your student activities fee goes? Look for the Meredith coffeehouse publicity. Don't forget, the coffeehouses are free for all, so feel free to bring Meredith and non-Meredith friends alike.

## Room For More!



### Chi Alpha Christian Fellowship

Join us Tuesdays @ 7pm  
Brown Room, Talley Student Center.  
NC State University  
For more information call 919.821.9823

[www.xa-ncsu.com](http://www.xa-ncsu.com)

## The MEREDITH HERALD Staff

Editor in Chief.....*Maria Santore*  
[herald@meredith.edu](mailto:herald@meredith.edu)

Managing Editor.....*Amber Littesy*

Layout Editor.....*Megan Rice*

Copy Editors.....*Amy Kay Nickerson*  
*Rita Hendrick*

Staff Photographers.....*Laura Marshall*  
*Terri Richards*

Business Manager.....*Stephanie Harrington*

Advertising Manager.....*Kristi Arthur*

Faculty Adviser.....*Dr. Rebecca Duncan*

### Staff Writers.

*Melinda Bowling*

*Rachel McElwain*

*Stephanie Justice*

*Emelia Dunston*

*Jackie Bullock*

*Joy Strickland*

*Lauren Stanfield*

The *Meredith Herald* is published by the College throughout the academic year. The paper is funded by the college and through independent advertising. All advertisements should be sent to [herald@meredith.edu](mailto:herald@meredith.edu), attention Natalie Braswell.

The opinions expressed in the editorial columns do not necessarily reflect those of the college administration, faculty, or student body.

Published by Hinton Press