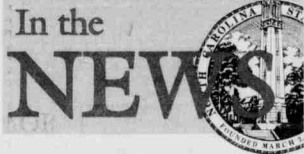




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NCSU freshman charged in connection with Metcalf fires

James Michael Pittman, a freshman in civil engineering, was charged with five counts of felony first-degree arson Thursday following a series of fires in Metcalf Hall that began in February and ended recently in August. Campus Police said in a recent *News and Observer* story.

Pittman, who lived on the seventh floor of Metcalf, was released to his parents after they put up the \$100,000 cash bail, the N&O article said.

Terry Wright, assistant chief of NCSU public safety, was quoted in the story as saying that Public Safety had followed a number of leads before calling Pittman in, adding that Pittman came willingly to the station.

"Based on the information we had gathered from leads in the case and his interviews, we felt comfortable with charging Mr. Pittman," Wright said in the article.

According to the N&O story, most of the fires were started in light fixtures near elevators on the fifth, ninth and tenth floors of Metcalf Hall.

Organic Farming field day set for Sept. 23 Goldsboro

Goldsboro's Center for Environmental Farming Systems will host the 1999 Organic Farming and Cropping Systems Field Day from noon to 6 p.m. Sept. 23.

Scientists from N.C. State will be on hand to discuss the effects of composting on soil microbiological ecology and the dynamics of nutrient cycling in organic systems that involve cover crops and manure.

Participants will be able to get hands-on experience with quality test kits, and visit a large-scale cropping systems experiment.

The event is free and open to the public. A dinner will be held at 6 p.m.; the cost is \$5. To sign up for the dinner, email keith_baldwin@ncsu.edu. For information on van pools from around the state, call the Carolina Farm Stewardship Association at 542-2402.

NATIONAL

Smashing the Gen-X stereotype: By the book

Like most self-respecting generations, Gen-Xers blame their brooding, grungy, body-pierced image on the generation before - the baby boomers. Gen-Xers admit they had a hand in their own bad media, but say that the boomer-dominated media of the early '90s blew it way out of proportion. The trouble began in March 1991 with Douglas Coupland's book "Generation X," X as in Brand X, X as in the anonymous signature of an illiterate, X as in a random variable.

In keeping with these themes, Coupland's book portrayed the generation as hopelessly bored and aimless. A few months later came Richard Linklater's independent film called "Slackers," which also portrayed the youths as bored and aimless. And finally, there was the Seattle grunge scene, where distorted music was performed by bored and aimless (but extremely wealthy) youths.

There seemed to be a pattern.

The early '90s media ran reams of confounding stories, television programs and films about the so-called slackers.

That's not to say the stereotype didn't contain flecks of truth, admit many Gen-Xers. Catherine Hazelton, 24, of Pasadena said her early college days supported some of the pop culture cliches.

"Oh, we were coffeehouse chic," said Hazelton, a board member of the California National Organization for Women. "We'd sit around talking and playing cards all night. I remember thinking, 'Is this it? Is this all there is? Are we just going to play gin rummy until we die?'"

WORLD

If no new words arrive, Japanese make them up

Japanese Prime Minister Keizo Obuchi is famous for making his own phone calls, to advisers, friends, politicians and people he reads about in the newspaper. He picks up his push-button phone - pronounced "pushi-phone" in Japanese, using the English words - punches in the number and announces, "This is Obuchi."

After Obuchi's habits became known, someone coined the word "buchi-phones." Soon journalists were writing, "The prime minister made some buchi-phones last night."

So is born a new Japanese word.

More than 6,000 words and phrases - most short-lived - are added to the language each year in a stream so rapid that people complain they often cannot fathom what is being said.

One word now acknowledged as a permanent part of the lexicon is *restruure*, the Japanese version of "restructure." Its most common meaning here is to be fired or pressured to quit as a company downsizes. "He was restruured" is heard frequently these days.

Techniques are a major source of the linguistic additions. All teens seem to know that one-giri, which translates as "one-cut," is a way of communicating with friends via cell phone without paying. The caller lets the receiving phone ring once, then hangs up. The recipient sees the number, recognizes a friend and perhaps sends a one-giri back.

"If you've had an argument, and your friend sends you a one-giri, you can send one back to let her know you're not mad anymore," said Aki Antai, 16.

NCSU preps for Y2K

By the end of October, the Information Technology department will be winding down its extensive two-year program aimed at ensuring Y2K compliance of the network infrastructure and core computing services.

ANDREW BUCHART
Staff Writer

As the Year 2000 deadline for computer and network Y2K compliance quickly approaches, the N.C. State Information Technology (IT) department is ending its extensive two-year program of testing, replacing and re-testing the university's computer hardware and software. By the end of October, the academic computing environment at NCSU will be nearly 100 percent vendor and government-certified Y2K compliant.

One of the foremost issues of the dawn of the new century this January is the Y2K bug, a glitch in many currently used computer software packages that are programmed to recognize only the last two digits of the year in date fields. Such programs will be fooled into thinking that '00 is the year 1900 rather than 2000, potentially causing lock-ups, incorrect calculations

and even system failures.

According to IT and NCState.NET Director Sam Averitt, the academic computing environment can be divided into two pieces: the network infrastructure and the computing infrastructure. The core backbone of the network infrastructure was replaced this past summer with new equipment that is both vendor and government-certified Y2K compliant. "As far as the network infrastructure is concerned, we should have no problems whatsoever," said Averitt. "All of the equipment is of very recent origin and is clearly Y2K compliant."

The six-month overhaul of the campus network involved the replacement of such items as thin wire and shared media hubs with new equipment of much higher speed and much more advanced functionality and capability. In addition, the network was fitted with a redundant architecture that will prevent single failures from bringing down the entire network.

The few remaining hubs still in place from the old equipment are all targeted for replacement by the end of October, said Averitt. The older network communication hardware that is not being replaced has no intelligence, and its functioning is not dependent on the date. "It wouldn't under-

stand the date if it saw one," he said.

The testing and certification process of the computing services side of the academic computing environment lends itself to be more complicated due to the number and variety of hardware and software packages in use.

"In terms of core services, we've done a lot of testing and we believe we're in good shape," said Averitt. "Obviously, we can't personally test everything to the nth degree, but we're fairly confident that the core services are going to work fine."

"One of the problems that arises in testing individual applications is that it is impossible to completely test the campus network as a whole," said Averitt. "If the vendor doesn't say it's Y2K compliant, we can't guarantee the basic setup, but it would be a monumental test to guarantee that all facets of the application will function in the Y2K environment."

The IT department is still in the process of upgrading some hardware and software. They also plan to be available on New Year's to address any issues that might arise to ensure that the core services are running well. They are mainly concerned with central services that affect large numbers of

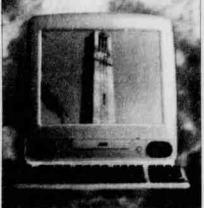
See Y2K, Page 2

Replacement of core backbone of network infrastructure this past summer to achieve vendor and government certification of Y2K compliance

Six-month overhaul of campus network

Testing and certification of core services of computing infrastructure

Provide "test call" to individuals to enable them to test their own software for Y2K compliance



Visions of the past...



Jeremy Bell, a sophomore in Computer Engineering, steps through time as he enters Riddick Stadium while looking at a relatively "new" Syme Hall.

Mike Pittman, Staff

Big sweep seeks aid

First Citizens Bank is seeking NCSU students to join other volunteers in ridding area waterways of litter as part of the 13th Annual North Carolina Big Sweep.

SPRINE STEPHENS
Senior Staff Writer

If you decide to join Wake County's efforts in the First Citizens Bank Big Sweep, there's no telling what you might find.

On September 18 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Wake County volunteers in boats and on foot will participate in the 13th Annual North Carolina Big Sweep to rid waterways in all 100 counties of North Carolina of litter and objects that "don't belong in nature."

"Volunteers can comb the shores of lakes, streams and rivers, while canoers and boaters cover the water where people on foot cannot go," said Terry Haggerty, secretary of the 1999 Big Sweep Executive Committee and vice president of First Citizens Bank.

The Big Sweep, working under this year's theme of "It's Time To Take Out The Trash," is N.C.'s part in the International Coastal

Cleanup, where about 90 countries and 55 states and territories participate in waterway beautification.

Wake County Big Sweep leaders are hoping to bring the cleanup closer to home. According to Haggerty, 657 volunteers participated in Wake County in 1998, scouring 39 miles of waterway and collecting 801 bags of trash and various large objects.

"We'd like to see even more volunteers from the Raleigh area come out and help," she said. Haggerty added that more volunteers, including N.C. State students and organizations, were needed to cover more terrain in the allotted amount of time.

Coupled with higher numbers of volunteers, the low water levels will provide more optimal cleaning conditions by allowing trash that may have been submerged in years past.

N.C. Big Sweep is an award-winning nonprofit organization that attempts to reduce aquatic garbage and teach citizens about the importance of clean waterways. In the past, more than 122,000 volunteers have removed over four million pounds of trash including cars, drug paraphernalia and mannequin heads.

See Sweep, Page 2

NCSU grad talks business

N.C. State Alumnus and CEO of iXL Bill Nussey spoke to students about his rise to president of a successful Internet service company.

EMILY TOWNLEY
Senior Staff Writer

Bill Nussey graduated from N.C. State in 1987 with both a degree in electrical engineering and ownership of a nationally recognized software company, DaVinci Systems, which he founded as a college sophomore.

And so began Nussey's rise to President and CEO of iXL, Inc., one of the fastest growing Internet service companies in the nation, according to Jon Bartley, dean of the College of Management at NCSU.

Nussey returned to his alma mater Thursday to speak in the Wachovia Executive Lecture Series, a yearlong event sponsored by the College of Management. Nussey spoke for an hour on his theory behind achieving success in the business world in his lecture titled "The Top Ten Truths of Internet Startups," to over 200 people in the Campus Cinema in Witherspoon Student Center.

"How many of you are interested in owning your own company one day?" Nussey

asked the audience at the start of his lecture. "My goal today is to lay out the myths and dispel the myths of starting a business from scratch."

Nussey outlined 10 tips he believes shapes the work of any entrepreneur or venture capitalist in an engaging Power Point program. He also interspersed personal anecdotes of his years as a Caldwell Scholar and North Carolina Fellow at NCSU and as a young entrepreneur in the business world.

"The art of strategy is not about choosing the right things to do; it's about avoiding the wrong ones," Nussey said. "I've made more mistakes in 14 years than most people make in a lifetime."

He explained that there are "no new ideas," but only new ways of executing them. The best companies, he said, don't create great ideas but, instead, create great management teams with "incredible expertise and intelligence" to apply to their ideas.

See Nussey, Page 2

Top ten truths of internet startups

Top Ten Truths of Internet Startups, by Bill Nussey, CEO of iXL, Inc.

- 10 there are NO new ideas
- 09 business planning is key
- 08 raising money is REALLY hard
- 07 someone has to take a "big risk"
- 06 the need for control is a myth
- 05 focus is key
- 04 success is achieved with phenomenal people
- 03 you DO need to make money
- 02 acquisition is better than IPO
- 01 luck matters

Former ASG president suspended

Nicholas Miris, former president of ASG and UNCC, was found "responsible" for violating campus computer use regulations and threats of physical and sexual assault.

NATHALIE DUGGINS
Senior Staff Writer

Things have gone from bad to worse for former Association of Student Governments President Nicholas Miris. According to a report in the UNC Charlotte student newspaper, "University Times," Miris was found "responsible" for communicating threats and for violation of the campus computer use regulations and will remain on suspension from the university until Spring 2001.

Miris replaced Jeff Nieman as President of the Association for Student Governments in May, but following a report in the "University Times" regarding violations of the UNC Charlotte academic integrity policy, Miris admitted to purchasing a research paper off the Internet. The former Student Body President of UNCC would later resign his position in ASG and as an ex-officio member of the UNC Board of Governors.

Editor in Chief of the "University Times," Jillian

McCartney reported her purse stolen following the publication of Miris' violations. Later, she received an e-mail from an anonymous Hotmail account from a person who claimed to have taken her purse.

Included in the e-mail message, the "University Times" reported, were threats of physical and sexual assault.

"It will be a pleasure to watch you bleed to death after everything you have done!" the Times reported the message as saying. "Prepare to die!"

In addition to the threatening e-mail, UNCC's student newspaper reported that two pornographic images, one of an erect penis and another of an anus, were sent as attachments.

McCartney reported the incident to the university's public safety and told campus police that she suspected Miris of sending the threatening message. In addition to serving on the university's newspaper, McCartney and Miris had dated dur-

Miris

See ASG, Page 2

Dr. Seuss and more

1991 in review.

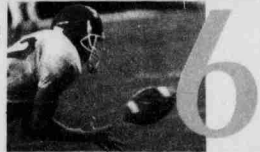


Gay writes

One staff member's response to Morgan's most recent column. Check out today's Campus Forum.

Hut-hut-hike

Sports info and more.



Y2K

Continued from Page 1

users. According to Averitt, there are going to be end-users who experience a glitch because they own equipment that's not compliant.

"Almost certainly some glitches will occur, but they will be minor and isolated at the extremities of the end-user level where a person has a machine running an operating system that wasn't upgraded," said Averitt. "But the impact will simply be that the individual machine doesn't function properly. We don't have the resources or, in some cases,

knowledge of the existence of some of these machines to solve those problems."

"When the upgrading has been completed, Averitt said the academic computing environment would be 100 percent Y2K compliant in its core services. However, should a glitch occur, staff will be available. "We feel confident that anything that might arise in core services can be handled very quickly," said Averitt.

"If [the Y2K bug] is obviously a problem that we've been aware of and working on for a long time," said Averitt. "There's been a lot of talk and a lot of preparation. My prediction is that in the environment we're in, it's [the year 2000] going to be relatively uneventful."

Nussey

Continued from Page 1

Nussey also relayed to his audience a personal theme he has adopted through his work in the software industry. "It is better to set aspirin than vitamins," he said.

The best companies sell "services over software" and create solutions for the problems — headaches — their clients have today. "You have to find a need and then work that need back into a company," said Nussey.

Nussey also emphasized the importance of a "great plan" that focuses specifically on the effective management behind the idea one wishes to implement. It is essential, he said, to let others know "why you're different."

Many such plans, he said, have "big success potential" and are simply "waiting for someone to dig in." "Every big success starts with someone taking a big, up-front risk," Nussey said. "Find someone who's gonna take a risk, and then things will really get going."

Phenomenal people are their keys to success in any business, according to Nussey. Success is not about ideas, technology, nor market opportunities, but about the people.

Nussey said that the most profound truth in starting a business is that luck does matter. Opportunism is what makes you really successful, he said. He added that he is shades away from where he was when he first created DaVinci Systems but that luck has made all the difference.

Students and faculty in the audience responded positively to Nussey's lecture.

"I have to go to these for a class that I am in, and this is one speech that I was really attentive to," said Sherine Cross, a junior in accounting. "He was to-the-point and he didn't draw it out, and I was really inspired by his initiative to take risks in his career."

"My brother is interested in startups, so I will definitely tell him to get in touch with this guy," she said. Nussey illustrated the importance of talking to people who have "been there before."

"I have found successful people and have done what it takes to get them to tell me their secrets. That has been the single theme of my career," Nussey said.

ASG

Continued from Page 1

ing the summer of 1997.

"I've known Nick for three years, both personally and professionally," McCartney said to a "University Times" reporter. "I have witnessed a pattern of behavior of dishonesty that would be in character of the individual that sent that e-mail."

"I knew from day one that it was him behind it," she said.

Miris said "not responsible" to the allegations at a hearing in front of a three-person administrative panel. However, evidence against the former president mounted when campus police were able to trace the e-mail to one of the university's computing facilities. In addition, the "University Times" reported that some of the pornographic sites accessed on the university computer matched those found on logs on Miris's computer.

UNCC's newspaper also reported that Miris submitted to a polygraph test, which he failed. Results from the Computerized Voice Stress Analysis (CVSA) are 98.6 percent accurate. Det. John Lindsay, the lead investigator on the case, told the "University Times" the lie-detector test was submitted to the panel as evidence.

Though the former UNCC president was suspended from the university on Sept. 1, Miris still attended and presided over the ASG meeting at UNC-Chapel Hill on Sept. 4.

N.C. State Student Body President Raj Mirchandani was unaware of Miris's suspension from UNCC.

"It was our understanding that he was in good standing," Mirchandani said.

Current UNCC Student Body President Mark Lombardi heard of Miris's suspension just minutes prior to the Labor Day weekend meeting, the "University Times" reported.

"If anything inappropriate had happened, I would raise a question," Lombardi told the student newspaper at UNCC. "I think it was a fair meeting and therefore I am not too concerned."

Newly elected ASG President Jeff Nieman, at NCSU for Sunday's meeting, said, "I have no official response, but we have moved on as an association."

Mirchandani agreed, saying, "One person cannot slow us down...all 16 student body presidents and delegates will continue to push to represent the university system."

Sweep

Continued from Page 1

from N.C. waterways. The event's success has resulted in such awards as Take Pride in America Hall of Fame and the Keep America Beautiful Public Lands Stewardship Award.

First Citizens Bank, as well as other businesses that include Carolina Power and Light, Coastal Federation and Duke Power Company are sponsoring the event.

Cleanup site locations will be easily identifiable and marked by banners, according to Haggerty.

No pre-registration is required. For more information, stop by First Citizens Bank for a brochure, or call 1-800-27-SWEEP.

Floyd nears coast

◆ As the storm nears the east coast of the United States, residents are being ordered to evacuate all the way from Florida to the N.C. coast.

BRAD LISTON
Reuters

COCOA BEACH, Fla. (Reuters) - More than half a million people were ordered to evacuate beach towns and barrier islands on Florida's east coast Monday as Hurricane Floyd churned toward the U.S. eastern seaboard.

Fearing the powerful hurricane would draw dangerously close to the densely populated south Florida coast, Miami officials told some 272,000 people to flee the teeming barrier islands, including the ritzy condominium towers and oceanfront mansions of Miami Beach and nearby towns.

"This storm is simply too close for comfort," Miami-Dade County Mayor Alex Penelas said in ordering the evacuations.

In nearby Fort Lauderdale, tens of thousands more residents were ordered out, and in central Florida, 200,000 people were issued mandatory evacuation orders in Cape Canaveral, Cocoa Beach and Merritt Island.

"I'm a little stressed out at this point. This looks like a serious one, man, it looks like all the conditions are perfect for it to really do some damage," said Craig McConnell of Dania Beach, just north of Miami.

For millions of Floridians, Floyd's menacing 155-mph winds stirred memories of 1992's Hurricane Andrew, prompting one state meteorologist to call the powerful storm "Andrew's big brother."

At least 40 people died when Andrew, the costliest hurricane in U.S. history, swept over the southern tip of Florida, battering 160,000 homes and causing more than \$25 billion in damage.

"This is a major Category Four

order" he said.

In Orlando, some 45 miles inland, hotel and motel reservations were being booked by worried coastal residents.

"The calls started last night and they really picked up this morning," said Susan May, desk clerk of a Comfort Inn in Orlando. "I think people are worried that the rooms won't be there when they need them."

At Walt Disney World, officials said they were taking reservations from coastal residents while also studying contingency plans to close the four theme parks and seven resort hotels at the world's most popular tourist destination if inland storm conditions become too threatening.

"We have an extensive hurricane plan in place and right now we're monitoring the storm very closely," said Disney spokeswoman Rena Callahan. "We're preparing for a wide range of scenarios."

"This hurricane could be catastrophic," National Hurricane Center director Jerry Jarrell said, adding that it could pack enough punch to tear the roofs off homes and crumble their walls even if the storm's center remains 30 miles off the coast, as some computer models project.

Hoteliers along Florida's east coast began preparing for the worst. Jeff Lehman, general manager of the National Hotel on Miami Beach, said workers would put up storm shutters late Monday and drain the pool Tuesday.

"Our primary concern right now is coming up with arrangements for the guests, in case we do get an evacuation order," he said.

In Orlando, some 45 miles inland, hotel and motel reservations were being booked by worried coastal residents.

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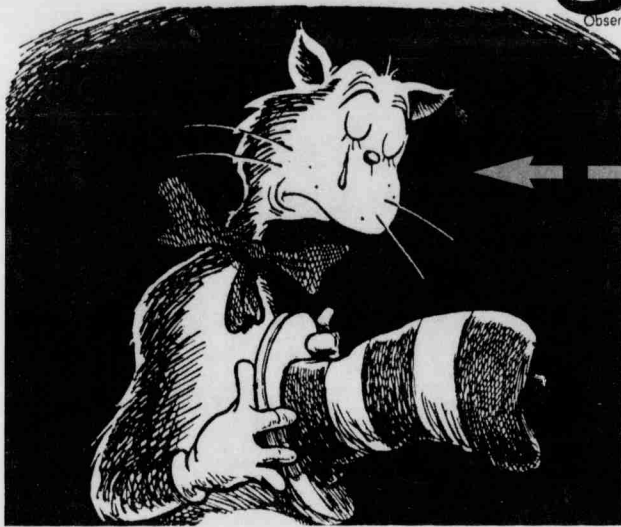
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The founder of Whoville will be missed by all

Gateway scheduled for completion in November

Students encouraged to hold post-game celebrations in Brickyard

Monteith moves staff to Holladay

Montieth's installation final



College of Textiles officially opens its new door

Three fraternities cleared

Three of the five fraternities under investigation for various offenses allegedly committed during Freshman Orientation have been cleared. Two other fraternities remain under scrutiny by the IFC.

- ΣΦΕ Sigma Phi Epsilon — Cleared
- ΛΧΑ Lambda Chi Alpha — Cleared
- ΠΚΦ Pi Kappa Phi — Cleared

- ΣΑΜ Sigma Alpha Mu — Investigated
- ΣΧ Sigma Chi — Investigated

Brian J. Little/Staff

Three fraternities cleared of hazing, two still under investigation

Student Center Annex officially opens over holiday

Class of '91 donates new reading room

Traffic lights needed

A police officer directs traffic at the Pullen and East Dunn intersection, numerous traffic accidents have required police assistance



Opinion

Technician's View No quarter

♦ The suspension of a former ASG president is a reminder that university standards on conduct and decency are not case-specific.

UNC Charlotte's suspension last week of former Association of Student Governments President Nicholas Miris is evidence of the tenuous position all students hold, one in fraction away from suspension.

Miris had already resigned his ASG presidential post when the UNC Charlotte student newspaper reported that he had bought a term paper off the Internet, a violation of the university's academic integrity policy.

Shortly after the "University Times" story, Editor-in-Chief Jillian McCarty reported her purse stolen and received an anonymous e-mail whose sender claimed to be the purse-snatcher. The e-mail threatened assault and included as attached files two pornographic images.

Evidence—the tracing of the location from which the E-mail was sent, a failed polygraph test—later arose connecting Miris to the threatening correspondence. The university responded by suspending Miris until Spring 2001, citing the communication of threats and violations of

the campus computer use policy. The quick and decisive actions of UNCC and the ASG are to be applauded—although ASG did curiously allow Miris to preside over a meeting three days after his suspension; they show that Miris' lofty positions did not place him beyond the reach of university and student government regulations. That should serve as a lesson to all students about the dangers of testing university policies.

That is not the only lesson to be learned from the current situation. The sour story of Miris and McCarty, former co-workers and romantic partners, also illustrates the dangers of playing out personal vendettas in very public arenas. Personal issues, be they between former lovers or products of the seemingly universal battle between good and evil, should not be allowed to interfere with professional responsibilities, like the responsibility inherent in representing a student body or in reporting news to that body.

Miris was the president of the student body of the 16-school UNC system, him the representative of system students. His reprehensible actions cast a long shadow over all the system's students and his punishment is well deserved.

CAMPUS FORUM

In response...

Editors Note: Because of this letter's nature the word limit has been waived.

Richard Morgan decided to express his narrow views on what he thinks the gay movement is all about ("Faults in the gay rights movement," September 9). It makes sense he would begin with an "not black and I'm not gay," because if he were gay, he never would have spotted that crap. So, I will not take this opportunity as a gay man hoping to have the same chance to voice my opinions in print to address Mr. Morgan's column issue-by-issue.

Issue #1: I didn't see you on the plantation. No, gay people as a whole were not subjected to the lives of plantation slaves as were black people. The bitter history of slavery was a terrible time, but racism today is not a product of history, but a product of ignorance. Ignorance is what makes a person view someone who's different as "less-than-human." It's what made plantation owners feel justified in making Africans slaves. It's what makes gay-bashers feel justified in beating and killing homosexuals. Got it?

Issue #2: What's man's burden? "Historically speaking... gays simply have not been persecuted." Says you... Thousands upon thousands of gay men and women were systematically tortured and killed in the concentration camps during World War II, then were overlooked when they were freed. You see, homosexuals were criminals in that day and so they could not be released from prison. Homosexuals have to fight to not be seen as criminals, but as there's a law in the books—and there are—then we know what's exactly how our country sees us. And there are laws in America designed to incriminate homosexuals, even though they aren't regularly enforced, the fact that they exist should scare us all. That's our burden Mr. Morgan. Meanwhile, have you heard of Cracker Barrel? That's a restaurant chain that set a no-homosexual policy and then systematically fired all gay employees. This hap-

pened only a few years ago and the policy still stands. How about that?

Issue #3: Martyrs and heroes Martin Luther King, Jr. is a hero to all of us, not just to African-Americans. I wonder how many tucked-off white people dismissed Rosa Parks as just a "cause du jour" as easily as you dismissed Ellen Degeneres? Martyrs are not created by vigils, as you point out. Martyrs are created by those who kill them because of their beliefs. That would make Matthew Shepherd a martyr, would it not? You are living in a time when homosexuals are just beginning to be able to claim their heroes because, until recently, nobody knew any homosexual public figures, lots of suffering are easily identified only when they are publicly recognized. That's why coming out is important—to give heroes to those who didn't have them before and to molest by the system? Chances are pretty high that if you're breathing, you've been hit hard by someone in the commercial, retail or service sector.

Issue #4: Where are you going with this? Good question. Where does anybody go when they feel persecuted? What would these people want? What we want is not special rights. We don't want favoritism over those who are un-fabulous. We don't need special rights at all. What we want is equality under the law. Straight people can marry, but gay people cannot. Straight people do not fear getting busted for their sexuality, but gay people do. How about an end to persecution? How about an end to the ignorance? We can't make people hate, but we can educate and we can push for laws that say we are just as human as you.

I'm not about to get up on a soapbox and say I'm just like an African-American, but I'm not going to be silent when someone like Mr. Morgan tries to tell me I'm not persecuted or discriminated against. As long as there are people like him, then we will know our fight is far from over. And since Mr. Morgan wants to give meaning to coming out, how's this: The more of us who come out and speak up against folks like his, the less there will be who will take his crap.

Nathan J. Gay
Student Services Assistant, S.O.D.

Aerial view of campus, circa 1941



NCSU: Class of the UNC system

ANDREW PAVNE
Staff Columnist

Students at N.C. State University are very lucky. We have one of the finest institutions in the country and especially in North Carolina. It's unfortunate that many students and other members of the community do not see the university's potential.

Of course, NCSU faces problems, but they pale in comparison to other institutions in the UNC system. Winston-Salem State University's chancellor has lost the respect and trust of its students, faculty and staff. Allegations came about after an audit turned up facts leading people to question the chancellor's spending habits. Tensions have mounted further since UNC President Milt Broad told the

Board of Governors that she felt confident in WSSU's chancellor and had no plans to replace him.

NCSU is fortunate to have a chancellor, Marye Anne Fox, who understands the university's role in the state and who fights for students. The chancellor lobbied the N.C. General Assembly vigorously this past summer in an effort to improve conditions and facilities and maintain the quality of life for students.

It is not often politically feasible for a chancellor to stand up against the legislature, but our chancellor realizes that it is a must for NCSU to remain an academic powerhouse. I have even heard critics say that some of the reasons the university did not receive the much-needed funding was that our chancellor went as far as she did and

she is from out of state. That might be one of the dumbest things I have ever heard.

If members of the General Assembly are basing their decisions on where individuals are from and not the welfare of the state, then our higher education system has no hope.

The potential for NCSU is incredible and I want to applaud our chancellor for believing in and seeing that potential. NCSU's economic impact already exceeds \$1.9 billion. It is about time that we have a strong leader willing to fight for students.

After talking with student leaders from around the state, we are also fortunate to have an excellent student affairs staff. Not only do they take time to listen to our concerns but, they also act swiftly to resolve problems.

Students at other UNC schools must deal with administrators who could care less about students.

Every situation may not turn out exactly the way students want it to, for example, the naming of the new Entertainment Sports Arena, but at least they make time to hear us out and allow us to present our side of the story.

NCSU is on the right track, with the right leadership at the helm; I just hope that the incompetence that plagues other UNC campuses doesn't find its way to Raleigh.

Rumor has it that Andrew will be interviewing the Backstreet Boys on his talk show on WKNC 88.1 in the next few weeks. Comments can be directed to sbt@ncsu.edu.

Communication breakdowns in food service

DONNIE LASSITER
Staff Columnist

I wonder something. How many of you out there have ever been walked on, taken advantage of or otherwise mistreated by the system? Chances are pretty high that if you're breathing, you've been hit hard by someone in the commercial, retail or service sector.

Whether it was a restaurant waitress, a clothing manufacturer, an airline or a telephone company (a sore spot for me, as I'm sure you know by now), if you've had a bad experience, sit back and get comfortable; the consumer advocate has a few tips for you.

1. Anything less than absolute professionalism doesn't cut the mustard. Too often in today's world, people forget that if they are the customers of a store or restaurant, then they have the fundamental right to receive treatment and service that are up to their own specifications. There is absolutely no need to put up with poor service, rude manners, inappropriate conduct or any other trifle of unprofessionalism. If a waitress is too busy engaging in conversation with the holder of giggling school girls visiting her that she can't get your check to you in a timely manner, you have every right to complain and raise hell.

Similarly, if a person has brought their personal problems to the workplace in the form of a lousy attitude, they are a perfect target. This is America people—there are 100 other people who can do the same job that person is doing. You shouldn't put up with things like poor attitudes, because work is a completely separate entity from personal life. If the guy at Dairy Queen wants to kick some guy's tail after work, your two scoops of vanilla and fragile little waffle cone should not have to bear the burden of his frustration. Bottom line: don't tolerate unprofessionalism.

2. Realize that you are the customer, and you are always right.

Another thing that people seem to overlook, if they even make it to the complaint process, is that no matter what the manager or owner says, they are the ones who are correct. Every time, about every issue. If it comes out

of your mouth and you're the customer, it has to be absolute truth. If you complain to a customer service manager about poor treatment that you received from one of her employees, tell her the story as you see it. If they don't agree, they have to keep it to themselves. And if they don't—if they try to make excuses to blow you off—then you bring out the big guns. Go one step above, to another supervisory level.

Now you not only have your original complaint to file at them, but you also have the fact that you were treated poorly by a person whose specific job is to make things right again. Sit back, tell your story and just dare them to say the wrong thing. If they clear up your concern, good—that's what they're paid to do. If they make you even madder, go out and buy yourself a steak—you'll own the company one day.

Before you make the call or ask to speak to someone in charge, decide what you want and need to feel like the situation has been resolved. Then, don't stop until you've gotten it. If you have to make a few long distance calls or if you have to tell your story three times, do it. They shouldn't win simply because you're tired of pushing the issue. Bottom line: don't let anyone talk you down.

3. You are expected to perform well on this job, so you should demand the same from others.

I used to work at several different grocery stores, and as a servant to the public, I was expected to be courteous, kind, helpful and concerned about the needs of the customer. When I go to the grocery store now (which is getting rarer and rarer these days because of that \$6 per week that my gracious financial aid award budgeted me for food), I demand the same caliber of service that I myself provided.

As a cashier, I was speedy and efficient. As a bagger, I never squished the eggs or bread, and I never bruised the bananas. As a deli clerk, I made sure I never charged the customer for the bag their meat was wrapped in. It's a simple matter of taking care of the person who is providing you with a paycheck.

For me, I scrutinize my receipt and watch the placement of my food items

like a hawk. If you have experience in the same kind of place that you're shopping in, invoke the work ethics you once held and hold the employee up to the same standards as you were once held to. If they do squish your bread, complain to the assistant manager. Why do you think they hire about 15 of them for each store?

4. Don't feel guilty about or be embarrassed to speak your mind.

Prior to my Awakening, I always put up with people's garbage because I didn't want to cause a scene or look like a whacko in the middle of a store or restaurant. I'm not saying to stand up in the middle of the place and start throwing merchandise or to pull out your Glock and go to work, I'm simply saying to make sure that your comments are heard by someone. I typically prefer to wait until I am home and have a free moment to call the place. That seems to work better, anyway—because more than likely the idiot that you are complaining to has no authority, desire or idea of how to take care of the problem.

Call headquarters, find someone in the Customer Relations department, and speak your mind to them. I have found, through extensive research in the area, that the best way to get results is to maintain civility and dignity, but to firebomb the person with comments regarding how lousy you were treated. Lay out the whole story, from the beginning, and take your time. Then, as you are finished, end with a direct question, like "So Bob, tell me why your employee wasn't trained on the importance of leaving personal issues at home?" This catches them off guard, and they scramble to apologize and correct the situation.

I have gotten my way every single time that I make a complaint. Most companies have an entire department dedicated to restoring your faith in them after a problem has arisen, and since they want your business again, they will take almost any step necessary to bring you back to them. Why not let them?

5. You spent your hard-earned money on this company's product or service. If they don't deliver what they promised, get that money back.

The biggest problem I have with

people who sit back and let people run over top of them is that they are just letting their money go down the drain. I don't know about the rest of you, but I for one know that the few dollars that I do have comes pretty damn hard, and I do not intend for that money to ever be wasted. If I feel like I didn't get every single dime of my money's worth, I am going to get it back.

For instance, I recently took a flight to St. Louis on U.S. Air. To make a long story short, my flight encountered delays totaling almost three hours. The reason? Mechanical problems.

Now, I realize that it is better to get delayed than to have the plane you're riding in fall out of the sky, but the point is that U.S. Air should have scheduled more maintenance sessions or built in a larger window of time to service their aircraft. Fix the thing when I'm lounging in my recliner before I even leave for the airport, not when I'm sitting on the cramped, stuffy hunk of metal.

Anyway, I called their customer service department (based in Winston-Salem, who knew?) and ended up getting a refund voucher for the entire price of my ticket. I knew that was the fair thing for them to do, and I made certain they did it. You can do this too—inform whomever you're speaking to that you were inconvenienced, harassed, disturbed, or angered by their company's performance and that you expect them to be completely fair in coming up with a solution. Bottom line: make sure you get your pesos back.

These are only a few ways that you can regain control of a nasty situation involving employees and their shortcomings. There are many more, and I'm sure that a lot of you have good ideas about how to take care of yourselves and your interests. Let's just not forget that this is, in fact, America, and we do have choices. Be sure that the end product was worth the investment, and if not—raise some hell!

Nothing is better for the soul (and the blood pressure) than exploiting those who have exploited you. Confucius says, man who get screwed end up with smile on his face.

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State readies to face Florida State, Floyd

◆ The Wolfpack Football team prepares this week for perennial rival FSU

ROEDRVO A. BARNID
Staff Writer

Despite what all the cynics think, the N.C. State Football team believes it can go down to Tallahassee Saturday against #1 ranked FSU and get the job done. "They definitely want to get back at this team. I know they're going to be ready for us but on the same token they're going to be ready for them," said senior corner Tony Scott. "You gotta step up to the challenge. You know its going to be a bigger challenge this time. I can't even remember the last time they lost at home. But the Wolfpack is ready to step up."

The Wolfpack football team is coming off a game against William and Mary, in which the offense "got back to basics," said Head Coach Mike O'Catn. In the game, the team had over 190 yards of rushing and most importantly the passing game got back on track with over 200 yards being gained in the air.



Floyd? What is the record for "games held during a hurricane" in a season?

The Pack also rose in the new College football polls, ranking #20 in both major rankings.

Now the team must look to open up their ACC schedule against a FSU squad that is hungry for revenge after a loss last year at Carter-Finley.

The defense, which has played well so far this year, looks to match up with a proven offense in Florida State. The defense is also looking forward to playing in front of a national audience against the much-lauded Florida State defense. "When you think of Florida State, you have to think about their defense and their secondary. However, I still do feel like we have one of the best defenses, one of the best secondaries in the country. I guess now we got a chance to prove it" Scott said.

In order to win, the team realizes it must put pressure on quarterback Chris Weinke.

"If we're not able to put pressure on the quarterback than we're going to have trouble with their receivers. If we do put pressure, than all of a sudden we have a great equalizer" O'Catn also added. The team will arrive on game-day an underdog, much like it was last year.

"You want the pressure to win, but I don't think anyone is giving us a chance. Georgia Tech was picked to finish 2nd in the conference and they didn't them a chance against FSU either" added Coach O'Catn.



The Pack secondary will have their hands full on Saturday.

Sports Staff Report

Shoulder Separation May Sideline Romine

Duke will probably call on Campbell to start at quarterback this week.

DURHAM, N.C. (AP) - With Spencer Romine recovering from a shoulder separation, Bobby Campbell may start at quarterback Saturday in Duke's home opener against Northwestern, coach Carl Franks said Monday.

Romine was injured in last Saturday's 27-9 loss to East Carolina and is questionable, Franks said.

"His arm is not in a sling right now, but how soon he can come back is a real question," Franks said. "He's going to miss a lot of practice time. It may be difficult for anyone to start under those conditions."

Campbell, a junior, started 10 games before this season, completing 186 of 382 passes for 2,124 yards, 8 touchdowns and 18 interceptions. After Romine was hurt at ECU, Campbell went 4-for-9 and 46 yards.

Fifth-year senior Kevin Thompson is likely to move up to No. 2 quarterback and will continue as a holder on field goals. Franks said both Campbell and Thompson will play Saturday.

Spoon's Season Likely Ended by Biceps Injury

UNC linebacker will have surgery on Thursday.

CHAPEL HILL, N.C. (AP) - North Carolina linebacker Brandon Spoon, injured in Saturday's game at Indiana, will likely miss the rest of the season, school officials Sunday.

Spoon, a senior, suffered a ruptured biceps tendon in his left arm in the quarter of the Tar Heels' 42-30 win over the Hoosiers.

Team doctors said Sunday he will undergo surgery Thursday to repair the tendon. The injury usually takes four months to heal, said North Carolina director of media relations Steve Kirschner.

Officials were not ready to comment on the prospects of Spoon's return this season, but "doctors feel strongly he is out for the season," Kirschner said.

Spoon, one of two defensive starters for North Carolina, led the Tar Heels in tackles last season.

No. 6 Penn State Downs No. 2 Wake's Soccer, 3-2

Loss marks first home defeat for Tar Heels since 1994.

CHAPEL HILL, N.C. - The sixth-ranked Penn State Nittany Lions got two goals from freshman forward Christie Welsh and a late first-half goal by sophomore defender Kristen Phillips to record a 3-2 upset win over second-ranked North Carolina in women's soccer action Sunday afternoon.

The loss was the first for Carolina at home since October 19, 1994 when Duke defeated the Tar Heels at Fetzer Field 3-2. That same game was also the last time Carolina trailed an opponent by as many as two goals in a game. The loss was only the seventh for UNC at home in its history and drops Carolina's all-time home record to 180-7-2. Carolina's all-time women's soccer record, including games at all sites, fell to 446-118-11 with the loss to the Nittany Lions.

"Penn State was clearly the better team on the field today," said North Carolina Head Coach Anson Dorrance. "Coach (Patrick Farmer's) team played tougher than we did and they had more heart than we did. We must go back and find a way to play the way Penn State played today. With the parity in women's soccer today, no team can win on its tradition any more.

Our girls will learn to understand that. We must rise to a higher level of play."

Duke Field Hockey Falls to Wake Forest, 6-0

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. - The 10th-ranked Duke field hockey team suffered a 6-0 defeat on Saturday at Wake Forest. The Blue Devils fell 2-3 on the season, while Wake Forest improves to 4-0.

The Demon Deacons recorded three first-half goals from Jenny Everett, Jennie Shelton and Samantha Rush. In the final stanza, Wake Forest notched three more tallies from Carrie Neidhardt, Everett and Heather Aughinbaugh.

Duke was held to just seven shots on goal, while Wake Forest tallied 19. Demon Deacon goalkeeper Meaghan Nikka posted four first-half saves; Duke goalkeeper Hallie Smith (Chatham, Mass.) had eight saves in the contest.

Duke returns to action on Tuesday when it host Radford at 7 pm at Duke's Williams Field.

ACC Football Players of the Week

Offensive back: Joe Hamilton, Georgia Tech
Offensive Lineman: Eric Thomas, Florida State
Defensive Lineman: Keith Adams, Clemson
Defensive Back: Braxton Williams, Clemson
Specialist: Lewis Sanders, Maryland
Rookie: Clavin McCall, Maryland



wolpack Invitational

All photos by Mike Pittman

Men's Champion Women's Champion

| | | |
|------|------------|---------------|
| 1992 | Clemson | N.C. State |
| 1993 | N.C. State | N.C. State |
| 1994 | N.C. State | South Florida |
| 1995 | N.C. State | N.C. State |
| 1996 | N.C. State | N.C. State |
| 1997 | N.C. State | N.C. State |
| 1998 | N.C. State | N.C. State |

N.C. State men's and women's cross country teams start their seasons this weekend as they host the Wolfpack Invitational on Centennial Campus. Both teams will be defending their Invitational titles for the fourth straight year, a situation the Pack will find themselves in at the ACC Championships this season in Chapel Hill in November. It all starts Saturday, but where it ends.....

| WOMEN'S TOP TIMES | MEN'S | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|------------|-------|
| 1. | Tommy Holland ('95) | App. St | 23:35 |
| 2. | Jose Gonzalez ('95) | N.C. State | 23:37 |
| 3. | Pat Joyce ('95) | N.C. State | 23:39 |
| 4. | Jose Gonzalez ('94) | N.C. State | 23:44 |
| 5. | Tim Cox ('94) | UNC-W | 23:48 |
| 6. | Joseph King ('95) | St. Aug. | 23:49 |
| 7. | Bob Malseed ('95) | USF | 23:50 |
| 8. | Joe Wirgau ('95) | N.C. State | 23:53 |
| 9. | Brendan Rodgers ('98) | N.C. State | 23:55 |
| 10. | Seth Peoples ('95) | App. St. | 23:56 |



Men's Individual Champ

| | | |
|------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1992 | Cormac Finnerty | Clemson |
| 1993 | Tony Riley | N.C. State |
| 1994 | Jose Gonzalez | N.C. State |
| 1995 | Tommy Holland | Appalachain St. |
| 1996 | Pat Joyce | N.C. State |
| 1997 | Abdul Alzindani | N.C. State |
| 1998 | Brendan Rodgers | N.C. State |

Women's Individual Champion

| | | |
|------|----------------|---------------|
| 1992 | Tracey Harrell | Georgia Tech |
| 1993 | Heather Hollis | N.C. State |
| 1994 | Heather Hollis | N.C. State |
| 1995 | Kristen Hall | N.C. State |
| 1996 | Jackie Coscia | N.C. State |
| 1997 | Laura Rhoads | N.C. State |
| 1998 | Minna Rasimus | South Florida |

