

MORGAN

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campus and advocates a system of checks and balances to increase Student Government's accountability to the students.

Why do you want to be Student Senate President?

"I want to ensure that Student Government will move forward," Morgan said.

Morgan is looking to make a historic change within Student Government and increase the respect within Student Government. Also Morgan wants to "give the campus community what they want, which is more campus events and to be better informed about what's going on."

The thing that separates him from the other candidates for the position of Student Senate President, Morgan said,

is his continued dedication to find out the opinions of students. When questions arose about the Student Government Trust Fund, Morgan went back to his constituents and asked them their opinions. He received response from more than 300 students.

"I can honestly say that I have done everything in my power to contact and talk to as many students as possible," Morgan said. "That dedication alone separates me from the other candidates."

More so than anything else, Morgan says he is seeking the presidency of the Senate so that he can continue to push the agenda of students and continue to make sure that the administration and Student Government put students first.

"I've preached it all year. I've said that to Chancellor Fox. I've said that to [UNC System President] Molly Broad. Students first until the end," said Morgan.

For more information, visit: <http://voteconnet.tripod.com>

GENOME

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data," Curtis said. "Then, for instance, a pharmaceutical company would have to pay a certain fee in order to gain access to their information. Once they get the information, a drug can be developed."

On the other hand, if all researchers, private and public, gain data of the approximately 100,000 genes, then companies who invested tons of money will feel like they paid for all parties.

"If Glaxo-Wellcome invests millions of dollars into the HGP research, they will want to gain a profit. It's not like they're doing it for fun," Curtis added.

Weir said NCSU does receive federal grants on research, but the money is not focused solely on genetic research.

SSP

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and what's going on with that, the president has very little control over the policies that are being made."

Prior to being elected Student Senate President last year, Whitaker had served as the Senate's parliamentarian and Senate President *Pro Tempore*. In order to be eligible to run for Student Senate President, a student must have served at least 50 percent plus one of the scheduled Senate meeting in any given year.

"Senate experience was absolutely vital and it's required in order to run for the position. Having been parliamentarian was helpful because that's when I first learned the rules," Whitaker said.

"I think it'd be difficult to run the whole Senate if you haven't had some leadership position within Senate first—a committee chair or an officer." Senate operates under a formal sys-

tem of rules, which the President is expected to know. Whitaker feels that a good candidate for Student Senate President should have a good knowledge of those rules.

"As far as running the meetings goes, it takes good knowledge of the rules to understand how things work. Other presidents have been less formal with the way they do things than I am. [Senate President emeritus] Alexis Mei certainly was, and that's fine...and that's each president's own personal style," Whitaker said.

"But, you still have got to know how things are supposed to work to be effective."

The job of the Student Senate President is a tumultuous one — Senate meetings typically run into the early hours of the morning and, by virtue of office, the president is often looked to by the university administration. Both the Senate and Student Body Presidents serve on the University Council, alongside the chairs of the Faculty and Staff Senates, the university's vice chancellor, the

deans of the colleges and some other members of the Chancellor's staff.

"It takes a very special kind of leadership to do this job. I had no real idea of what I was getting myself into...I'll admit that," Whitaker said.

Perhaps the greatest challenge that faces the candidates for the position of Senate president is maintaining relationships with a variety of groups, most of whom don't share the same opinion on the university's controversial issues.

"You have to answer to the senators and do what they need to keep Senate running. You've got to answer to the Student Body as a whole, which sometimes doesn't have the same feelings that the senators do. You've got to work with the administration and that can require you to negotiate some on the position that you've been asked to represent," Whitaker said.

"Keeping all those relationships going in a positive direction is probably the biggest challenge you have and it requires a leader of incredible talent."

COTTER

Continued from Page 1

advance the cause."

"I want to make sure that the most effective things that Student Senate does, aren't the ones that go on inside those meetings," Cotter added.

Why do you want to be Student Senate President?

While Cotter acknowledges the qualifications of the other Senate President candidates, he feels that his experience within Student Government makes him the best candidate for the presidency.

"I think that my unique combination of my specific goals and my experience within Student Government probably best qualifies me for running for the position," Cotter said.

For more information, visit: <http://www4.ncsu.edu/~jfcotter>

Technician Briefs

Firm affiliated with N.C. State hopes to spark 'smart card' revolution

ID Technologies Corp. (IDTEK), a publicly traded company based at N.C. State University's small business incubator facility, is hoping to evoke the "smart card" revolution through the commercialization of the invention by NCSU alumnus Bill Lane.

To help get the technology to market, the company has received an investment from Centennial Venture Partners, a venture capital fund started by NCSU, to assist companies associated with the university. Lane's invention, the same height, width and thickness as a credit card, contains the components of a

computer, allowing it to be activated with the fingerprint of a single user. A device inside the card called a capacitor — a circuit that temporarily stores an electric charge — activates the card for two seconds after the authorized user touches it. One of the most beneficial uses for IDTEK's biometrics technology: combating credit card fraud. Johnston predicts the "smart card" could prevent millions of dollars lost annually to credit card companies and consumers when unauthorized users make purchases on stolen and lost credit cards.

Environmental effects of hurricanes to be discussed at conference

Were human impacts on coastal rivers, estuaries and sounds significant factors in the destructive floods that followed Hurricane Floyd last year? How did Floyd affect water quality in North Carolina's coastal and near-shore ocean waters?

These are among the questions scientists and policy makers will discuss at the annual North Carolina Water Resources Research Conference, March 30, at the Jane S. McKimmon Center at N.C. State. The conference is sponsored by the University of North Carolina's Water Resources Research Institute (WRI), located at N.C. State. Scientists from NCSU, UNC-Wilmington, the UNC-CH Institute of Marine Sciences, East Carolina

University, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and other research institutions will present their findings on the impact of Floyd on the environment, and how human development, land use and water use may have been factors in the flooding.

Registration for the conference is \$55. To register or for more information contact WRI at: (919)515-2815.

Nightwalk 2K planned for Thursday

Are you afraid of the dark? Do you avoid poorly lit areas on campus? Do you want to do something about it? Well, have no fear. Nightwalk 2K is almost here. Nightwalk 2K, organized by

Student Government, is open to faculty, staff and students. Participants will meet in Riddick 242 at 8 p.m. on Thursday, March 30, and be given a focus area on campus. They will survey that area and report all malfunctioning blue lights and streets lights, as well as make note of poorly lit areas on campus. The participants will be asked to report the location of overgrown shrubs and trees that interfere with lighting efforts. Free food and flashlights will be provided. The purpose of the event is to make NCSU a safer and more enjoyable place for everyone.

For more information, please email Justin McCurry at: jbmccurry@eos.ncsu.edu

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GO PACK!!!!

FORUM

Continued from Page 3

Speech coverage ignores message

When the right to life ceases to be revered in our society, so do the values upon which our country was built. The recent article regarding the Norma McCorvey speech reeks of bias and I am sad that our campus cannot claim a student newspaper with even a minimum decent level of professionalism.

Technician covered only the negative aspect of the event. As unfortunate as this so-called "confrontation" was, it was only a small incident within a successful event. Well over 400 people were in attendance

(probably one of the most well attended UAB-funded events recently), and, even though a large portion of the crowd disagreed with McCorvey, they were able to come and hear a different and mostly ignored side of the issue.

I believe that I represent a significant portion of the student body when I say that I am weary of being told by fellow students through means of a "newspaper" article that my views do not apply to modern society. The pro-life movement is a movement begun and maintained by people who revere human life and human dignity; it is certainly unfortunate that those who espouse this view are ignored and unduly hushed. The pro-life movement is not here to ensure that others are silenced and ignored; we simply wish to bring forth our beliefs to be discussed and considered. This is a university, a place to share ideas and

beliefs.

Norma McCorvey brought with her a very important message: God can change lives no matter what a person has done. McCorvey is a testimony to this truth and should receive the same respect that any other speaker is given on this campus, regardless of whether one may agree with her or not.

I, as well as the group of students for which I speak, am not so naive as to think that everyone will change their views. We simply ask that our voice be heard and respected. If that cannot happen, then we have lost a large part of what it is to be college students here at N.C. State.

Don Davis
Sophomore
Political Science

Fee ruling cheapens free speech

MASHA HERBST
Charlottesville Daily (U. Virginia)

The U.S. Supreme Court dealt freedom of speech a violent blow last Wednesday when it yielded to the liberal politics of student activity fees. The Court ruled in Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System v. Southworth that universities can continue to use mandatory student fees to support student groups, regardless of whether some students object to the viewpoints and goals of any of the groups.

Although University of Wisconsin officials have touted the decision as a victory for free speech, the ruling does nothing more than water down the First Amendment and give in to the thought-police mantra of toleration that has grown alarmingly common on college campuses.

The plaintiffs, a group of self-described conservative Christians, objected to the use of their activity fee money to subsidize liberal organizations such as women's and gay rights clubs. They argued, correctly, that the use of their money to support such groups was coerced speech. The Court's decision stated that a university is an institution charged with encouraging a free flow of ideas, and thus, as long as the organization system is inclusive of all viewpoints, student fees can be used to support the groups.

Faulty logic. A college classroom

certainly is a venue for the exchange of ideas, and thus schools can offer courses in subjects from Christianity to the occult. And a college campus is supposed to be an extension of the classroom. But there is a big difference between the money that is used to pay a professor teaching the History of Women's Rights and the money that supports a college chapter of NOW: advocacy. The student fee money that goes to NOW could be used to purchase posters for an abortion rights demonstration.

Freedom of speech means that the group can hold a demonstration. Freedom of speech also means that students can object to the demonstration. Money talks, and if student activity funds are buying the posters, the students who have to pay the mandatory fee are in effect saying that they support the abortion rights, even if they do not. But refusal to support certain groups is a means by which students can exercise their freedom of speech. By refusing to support a group financially, a student says, "I disagree with you." Forcing a student to pay a fee that in part will support a group with which he disagrees, however, is a severe constitutional violation.

The Court justified its transgression by touting the need for a free flow of ideas on a college campus. It sounds like a benign goal, even a goal worthy of honor. Something that would do our founding fathers proud. We've heard this line before. We must subject ourselves to opposing viewpoints,

and we must tolerate them, even if we feel to the cores of our very beings that they are wrong. Furthermore, the rhetoric goes, we must respect these viewpoints. Our generation is particularly susceptible to falling for this dangerous deception.

Since childhood, we have been conditioned by the media and by liberal academics to look upon the words "tolerance" and "respect" with reverence. To do otherwise, we have been taught, is sacrilege, un-American and immoral. But tolerating and respecting a person's right to express his opinion is not the same as tolerating and respecting the opinion itself. If everyone tolerated and respected everyone else's opinions, an attempt at a truly free exchange of ideas would be stymied.

A free exchange of thought depends upon argument and debate, and argument and debate in turn are founded upon a lack of tolerance for dissenting opinion. To debate is to attempt to convince a person to agree with you. An argument cannot occur without a prior conviction that someone else is wrong. Such conviction implies a lack of respect for another's opinion—if a debater respects his opponent's opinion, the debate is over before it even begins. Respect for an idea implies faith in its accuracy. If more than one opinion is right, and if all opinions are equal, there's no point in arguing. The free flow of ideas crumbles and to hold an opinion at all becomes pointless.

CANDIDATES ON HOW YOU SHOULD VOTE

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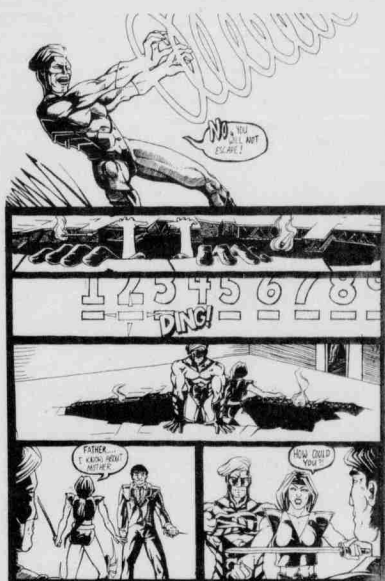
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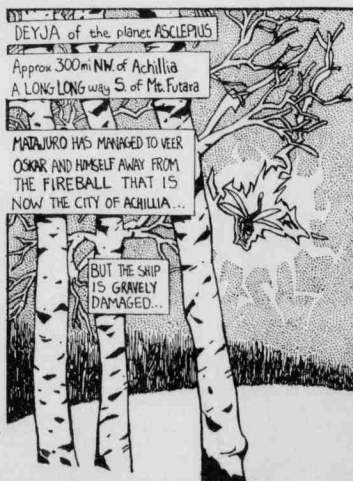


tuffy by shazam!



doughboy 1998 by marko

Confused about how we got to 2000?
Last time, Maxine, in Medieval Europe, explored a graveyard, read a bird's mind, talked to Chalkhydril and crossed a hill in search of a distant battle. Meanwhile on the planet Archeaxarth, Matajuro berated a Maxine-like Entorze just as Oskar popped up. The two heroes decided to embark on a journey with Shuster the smug to the planet Achilla, which has recently been rocked by a comet. This week, Matajuro and Oskar head toward Achilla in a damaged spaceship. Meanwhile, in Medieval Europe, Maxine continues searching for a break and runs into a being who might be the Archangel Gabriel, the being partly responsible for Maxine's current state of confusion about her existence.



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