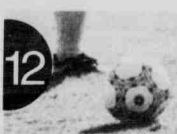




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Wednesday
October 4, 2000

TECHNICIAN

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Harper's spending 'inappropriate'

◆ State auditors released their results of their special review of N.C. State Public Safety Tuesday.

Jimmy Ryals
News Editor

Former N.C. State Public Safety Chief Ralph Harper exhibited "poor judgement" in purchasing over the last six years, according to North Carolina Auditor Ralph Campbell.

The State Auditor's Office released the results of its special review of NCSU Public Safety Tuesday at the State Auditor's

office in downtown Raleigh. The auditors investigated the use of lapsed salary funds by Harper, questionable travel involving Public Safety employees, department management practices and inappropriate behavior in the use of NCSU equipment by Harper.

The report states that Harper's spending and mismanagement of Public Safety had a total financial impact on the university of \$843,588.47.

Though reluctant to compare the Public Safety audit to past audits, Investigative Audit Manager Dale Place did say that "this would certainly rank as

one of the larger ones that we've done."

In a press conference Tuesday, Campbell questioned Harper's spending practices.

"I don't think that they fall into the element of criminal, but it is highly questionable when you particularly look at the type of items that were being purchased," said Campbell.

Of the 13 findings published in the auditor's report, one is being referred to the State Bureau of Investigation because of possible legal repercussions.

Four current or former Public Safety employees — including interim Chief Terry Wright and

Director's Assistant Ginger Huber — signed statements saying that Harper had taped conversations on their phone lines at Public Safety headquarters.

Three of the four, including Wright, stated that Harper had explicitly told them that their phone lines were not being recorded. Harper told auditors that the employees did know that their phone lines were being recorded.

Taping phone conversations between two parties by a third party without the consent of the conversing party's consent is a violating party's consent is a vio-

Fox, Broad respond to audit report

◆ UNC System President Molly Broad has given N.C. State 90 days to act on State Auditor Ralph Campbell's recommendations.

Jimmy Ryals
News Editor

UNC System President Molly Broad and N.C. State Chancellor Marye Anne Fox responded Tuesday to State Auditor Ralph Campbell's report on his office's special

review of NCSU Public Safety. "We take the auditor's report very seriously," said Fox. "And we've initiated a number of options to insure that the potential misuse of state funds will not take place ever again at N.C. State."

Broad has given NCSU 90 days to implement all of the recommendations included in the auditor's report. Should the university fail to do so, Broad will recommend that the UNC Board of Governors withdraw budget flexibility for NCSU, a move

See AUDIT, Page 3

See BROAD, Page 3

Four years of tuition increases at N.C. State

◆ Tuition increases are likely to become a familiar occurrence for students in the next few years.

Andrew Buchert
Assistant News Editor

The 2000-2001 academic year marks the first major tuition increase in four years for NCSU students, according to tuition data from the NCSU Budget Office.

"The major impact in this year's tuition results from our recommendation to the Board of Governors for a \$300 increase, which they approved for two years," said Stafford.

Prior to this year, all across-the-board and institution-based tuition increases were determined solely by the UNC General Assembly based upon their judgement of how much was appropriate.

Students entering NCSU in the fall of 1997 saw a 2 percent increase in their tuition in the fall of 1998. In the fall of 1999, they saw a 5 percent increase.

Tuition for fall 2000 increased by \$332, the result of the \$300 NCSU increase and the across-the-board 2 percent increase, according to data from the NCSU Budget Office.

The across the board increases are proposed to the Board of Governors by a tuition advisory committee consisting of administrators and student representatives from each of the UNC System constituent institutions. UNC Association of Student Governments President Andrew Payne, Pettigrew and Stafford represent NCSU on this committee.

"If students are included [in the tuition increase proposal process] it is much easier for us as student leaders to explain the increases to students," said Pettigrew. "I asked questions about the proposed 4 percent increase, and I wouldn't have accepted it if it wasn't justified."

Prior to fall 1997, NCSU and UNC Chapel Hill were authorized by the General Assembly to raise their tuition by \$400, said Stafford.

"NCSU used the revenue for financial aid and for the libraries, whereas Chapel Hill used the money for faculty salaries," he said.

"The majority of students are understanding of the across-the-board increases, said Pettigrew, but problems usually arise in cases of institution based raises, like the \$300 increase.

"The main issue, especially when students aren't involved in the proposal process, is the communication of the reasons for the increase," said Pettigrew. "When students are included, the increase is easier to take in."

If the 4 percent across-the-board increase is approved, then the 2001-02 NCSU tuition will increase to \$2234 for in-state students, and the out-of-state tuition will increase to \$11,400, based on a \$74 across-the-board increase and NCSU's \$300 increase.

The revenue generated from these increases was directed into a general fund to be allocated back to the universities, said Stafford.

"The Board of Governors decides how much money to allocate to each institution," he said. "It does not come back dollar for dollar."

Last year, the Board of Governors adopted a new policy to allow each university to independently propose tuition increases for specific purposes, and the NCSU administration used the opportunity to propose the \$300 increase.

"Every penny of the \$300 tuition increase comes back to NCSU," said Stafford.

The NCSU administration divided up the revenue from this increase and applied one-third of it to financial aid, one-third to improvements in faculty salaries and one-third to support student programs and services, said Stafford.

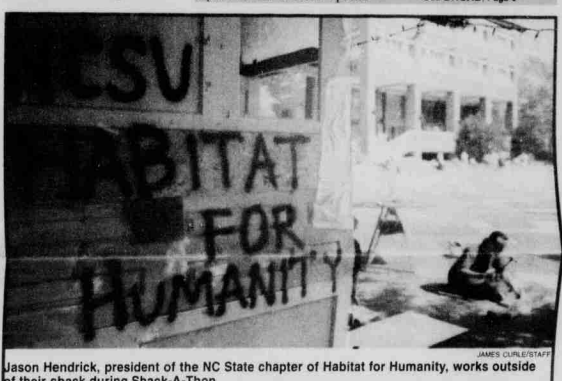
This year's increase is the first substantial increase for NCSU students in the past four years. But students entering the university in fall 1997 have also endured two years of small tuition increases enacted by the legislature to account for changes in the cost of living.

"Every year, [the General Assembly] reviews raises in overall expenses and enacts a small percentage tuition increase across the board," said NCSU Student Body President Harold Pettigrew.

"The across-the-board increase was 2.1 percent this year, and there is a 4 percent increase on the table for next year," he said.

tuition increases		
	resident	non-resident
1997-98	\$1,428	\$10,414
	+28	+208
1998-99	1,456	10,622
	+72	+72
1999-00	1,528	10,694
	+332	+332
2000-01	1,860	11,026

source: university budget office



Jason Hendrick, president of the NC State chapter of Habitat for Humanity, works outside of their shack during Shack-A-Thon.

Students find business classes unavailable

◆ College of Management Dean Steve Barr described efforts to curb the increased demand for business classes.

Cara Froedg
Assistant News Editor

When Kim Skrabec, a senior double majoring in marketing and Spanish, returned to N.C. State this fall, she was not registered for any classes — she tried, but could not get into any of the ones she needed through TRACS.

Skrabec transferred to NCSU three years ago from Clenson, where she said she never had trouble registering for business classes, even when she was a freshman.

"Because there were so many more classes to choose from," she said. "Here there are only about five marketing classes."

Skrabec is only one student out of many who has had problems registering for classes in her major.

"My parents hadn't even paid tuition when I came back," she described.

Skrabec had to fill out green forms several times before she was able to register for the classes that she needs to graduate in May.

"It is difficult in this college," she said, "because teachers aren't allowed to let us in like in other colleges."

Lauren Cooper, a senior in accounting, described similar problems.

"When I try to register for classes, they are always full," Cooper said.

This year, she filled out a green form nine times before she was able to take one class.

"I think only this school is bad," she said. "I have never heard this happening anywhere else."

She said it is frustrating for everyone.

"I know people who are minoring in business who can't get the classes they need, either," said Cooper. "I think it is because they give priority to the business school, but [business minors] technically are in the business school, too. I just don't understand."

Steve Barr, the dean of the College of Management said that if these students registered properly, these incidents should not have happened.

Because of the college's new system of priority registration, students in the College of Management are given 80 percent of the seats in each class, a number that should satisfy the needs of all the management students, said Barr.

"This is not an issue of not wanting to help," Barr said. "Currently, the College of Management is trying a number of things to ease the registering process for their students."

For example, the College of Management is looking into decreasing the number of majors while simultaneously increasing the number of faculty.

"The university has limits," he said. "We hired five new faculty this year and we are looking to hire four or five more... we cannot go out and hire 30. The university doesn't have the resources."

At the moment, the College of Management is doing its best to accommodate the students' demands, said Barr.

"We need to bring class size down," he said. "This is a hell of

a load on our faculty."

Amy Fremin, a junior in textile and apparel management has also found herself in the same situation as business minors who can't get into classes.

While her major is located in the College of Textiles, she said, "I am still a getting a management degree. It is just under a different school."

Fremin needs to take business classes, but she must wait for the entire College of Management to register for classes before she is allowed to register.

"I am going to be a senior and still not have this class," she said.

Fremin's case is not unusual, said Barr. Many students are required by other disciplines to take business courses. They are allowed the other 20 percent of the seats in each class.

Last semester, before the College of Management implemented its new system, 40 percent of the credit hours offered were used by non-College of Management students, Barr said when they discovered this they changed the system.

"Now we tell the associate deans from other departments to advise their students to be cautious," said Barr. "We can't guarantee them classes or seating."

Even students minoring in business are not given special consideration because of the increased class demand.

Barr said they are trying their best to solve these problems, but emphasized that it cannot be done at once.

"We are pleased people are looking at us, but we're frustrated that we can't help," he said.

voter registration concert

starring
nelly



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AUDIT

Continued from Page 1

lation of North Carolina General Statutes 15A-286 and 15A-287.

In investigating surveillance practices in Public Safety, auditors found eight video or camera surveillance devices and five audio recording devices. Five of the video recording devices were mounted within the department, including one mounted in a false smoke detector in the director's office.

"We contacted three other universities, and none of the three had audio or video recording equipment in their offices," said Place.

The report found nearly \$90,000 in "questionable purchases" made by Public Safety employees over the past six years. These purchases cost less than \$5,000 each or were made on an NCSU procurement card. Harper was the only overseer of such purchases.

Included in that spending are

clothing, repairs performed by contractors, purchases from non-state contract vendors and "items not immediately identifiable as relevant to campus law enforcement activities," in Campbell's words.

All told, the university removed more than 100 items from the Public Safety department, worth a total of more than \$130,000. Those items were redistributed, sold or scrapped.

Further, Public Safety employees removed more than 190 items from Harper's home and his state-assigned truck.

Harper told auditors that he had taken some of the items home for use during hurricane season and others for safekeeping.

Four other current or former Public Safety employees also returned to the university items they had taken home without documentation.

Investigators found two questionable trips taken by Harper and Public Safety employees. One was to a convention in Asheville in 1998; the other was

a 1999 trip to Springfield, Ill., for the funeral of a former Public Safety trainee.

On the first trip, Harper and two clerical employees went to Asheville for a convention, where the clerical employees stated that the group did not attend classes after first morning and, further, that the three spent three time traveling to tourist sites in western N.C.

Harper told investigators that he attended some additional classes.

Harper and a detective traveled to the Springfield funeral and stayed for an extra for "no legitimate reason," according to Campbell.

According to the report, the trip cost NCSU a net total of \$4,052 in non-business related travel expenses.

Auditors also investigated a variety of mismanagements of state-owned vehicles.

Four Public Safety employees told investigators they had seen Harper driving state-owned vehicles after or while in the process of consuming alcoholic

beverages, a violation of Motor Fleet Regulations.

Harper denied having drunk alcoholic beverages before or while driving his state-assigned vehicle.

The auditors also found that Public Safety spent \$3,417 to clean Public Safety vehicles — \$1,540 of that for Harper's vehicle alone — when there is cleaning equipment available on campus, free of charge for state motor fleet vehicles.

From June 1, 1998 through June 30, 2000 Public Safety officers bought nearly \$800 worth of fuel for state-owned vehicles using charge accounts, a university purchase card or a university reimbursement.

That spending took place in spite of the fact that they could have gotten gas from state-owned gas stations for about 10 cents less per gallon than commercial vendors charge.

Auditors also investigated the inappropriate behavior by Harper in the use of NCSU equipment.

That inappropriate behavior

consisted mostly of taking items paid for with state money home with him or allowing Public Safety employees to take items from the office without proper documentation.

The report also detailed various occurrences of Harper's general mismanagement, including asking personal favors of employees on office time, giving time off to employees without charging them leave, paying one radio communications vendor nearly \$140,000 over two fiscal years and leaving an excessive number of positions open in order to use lapsed salary income in other areas.

Campbell said that, according to his office's findings, Vice Chancellor for Finance and Business Jeff Mann, the man to whom Harper reported, was aware of Harper's large purchases.

"Not only was [Mann] in a position to see it, he was approving it," said Campbell.

Campbell went on to say that Mann only approved purchases

of more than \$5,000. He had no oversight of the purchases made on university procurement cards.

Mann submitted his resignation to Chancellor Marje Anne Fox last week. Fox said that he offered no reason for his resignation and that it would be effective at the end of December.

Mann could not be reached for comment at press time.

Campbell speculated that the 1998 switch from former Chancellor Larry Monteith to Fox may have affected Harper's mismanagement.

"I would say that this was a case in which I believe that the employee very well may have taken advantage of the transition between two chancellors," said Campbell.

The N.C. Attorney General's Office will now review the state auditor's report and decide whether to seek criminal charges against any of the involved parties.

Also, Fox has requested that the SBI review the report.

BROAD

Continued from Page 1

which would take away NCSU departments' ability to reallocate lapsed salary funds for other purposes.

Fox believes that the university has already made headway toward fulfilling the auditor's recommendations. This summer, Fox mandated that all university departments give a quarterly accounting of their lapsed salary fund spending to her through her vice chancellors.

That policy is more strict than the UNC System General Assembly's new policy requiring departments to provide an annual plan for the use of lapsed salary funds.

Fox also cited the resignations or terminations of Public Safety officials and administrators as

part of NCSU's progress in the wake of former Public Safety Chief Ralph Harper's controversial spending.

Harper resigned at the end of June; his former supervisor, Vice Chancellor for Finance and Business Jeff Mann submitted his resignation to Fox last week.

"I think that those actions show that N.C. State will not tolerate misuse of state funds," Fox said. "And I believe that we have done everything we can to insure the citizens of North Carolina that the university is back to its normal operations."

The university will hire an outside organization to undertake an independent programmatic evaluation of NCSU Public Safety.

Broad has assigned the UNC System Auditor to work with NCSU officials to monitor NCSU's use of procurement cards and departmental small purchases.

"A lot of the problem is that small purchases have added up to large purchases," said Fox.

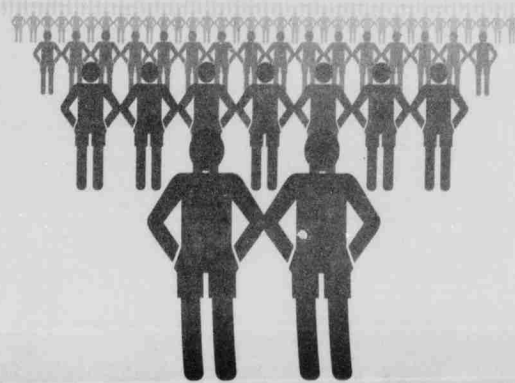
Procurement card purchases and purchases of less than \$5,000 comprised nearly \$90,000 of the improper spending found by the state auditor.

Also, university administrators will make all NCSU employees aware that the state auditor's office does have a hotline for the reporting of misuse of state property or funds.

Broad cited the "significant loss of credibility for NCSU's law enforcement department" as one of most damaging consequences of Campbell's findings.

Broad does, however, see some positives coming out of the audit.

"This is an opportunity to shine a spotlight on the kinds of behavior that won't be accepted at NCSU and in the UNC System," she said.



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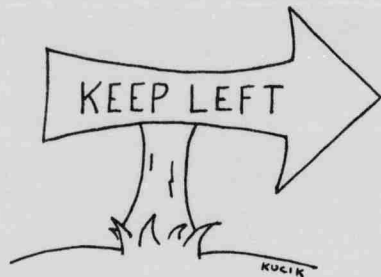
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TECHNICIAN'S VIEW '11' gets a 10

It's a sad fact to every university that our days numbered. Ever-changing grade-point averages, dormitory phone numbers, ICQ identification numbers, classroom numbers, banking account numbers, the number of pre-paid meals remaining and GRE test scores are all ways in which we become faceless, electronic statistics. But the use of Social Security identification numbers (SSNs) for student populations has foregrounded the idea that becoming a faceless member of a university means that any willing identity thief could assume that face.

Resolution 11 (is everything numbered?!), which recommended the university use SSNs for identification only when "legally obligated."

The recent embrace by the Cashier's Office of a new student identification number, one based random six-digit number, serves not only to protect the student body but also the university as a whole against attempts at student identity theft. The university — at least, the Cashier's Office — is making a firm stand not only for student privacy but for the virtue of privacy itself. In a technocratic society, yet another number for students to remember may seem like an unnecessary further complication of already-complicated college life. The move, however, serves to ensure that ever-developing technology capable of stealing student identification numbers isn't also able to be used for credit card fraud, driver's license fraud or a host of other scenarios of identity theft made possible with the possession of stolen SSNs.

So, to wrap up, I earns a 10 for providing a one-two punch, deep-seating their concerns and giving university policy a 180 and earning NCSU's Cashier's Office a well-deserved high five. As for the fate of SSN's university-wide? It looks as if their number is up.

Proposition 11 brings NCSU away from identity theft and earns the university some praise in the process.

Rachael Overcash
Staff Columnist

Right now, that mid-semester crunch time is approaching. Students are starting to get that second wave of tests, classes are getting harder and everyone is beginning to have less and less time on their hands. Students are feeling the burden of school, starting to question the purpose of their classes or why they are not working as hard as they need to. Yet amid all these stresses and worries, you must always remember to keep focused.

things of life that they lose sight of the end. Now don't get me wrong, I am always up for some drama. I am often called the "Drama Queen," but one thing I have learned from all the drama and stress in my life is that, at the end of it all, I have to remain focused. Remaining focused means keeping sight of your ultimate life goals, remembering your ethics and convictions and most importantly remembering who you truly are.

It is often hard though to keep those things in mind when people or circumstances are thrown at you that make you question yourself. In college, there are so many opportunities to develop your personality, to be wild and to reach for your goals. Yet when you are developing all these aspects of yourself, you need to be the main catalyst in that development. If your personality is going to be true, you must develop it according to what you think and what you feel. We often allow other people to mold us. We become dependent on others to tell us what to do.

When it really comes down to it, however, you are the only one who can decide what is best for yourself. You know what you have to do to make it in the long run. You know what you want to accomplish in life. Through all those turns and tribulations in your life, all the personal development, you must remain focused on the end; do not let "what ifs" and uncertainties in your life cause you to deviate from your determined path. There is always a little piece of advice I try to give my friends: No matter what hap-

Touch someone: yourself

Richard Morgan
Staff Columnist

My parents could be good at being bad. One time while we were at Disneyworld and I wouldn't put on my pajamas, my father stripped me naked in front of my family (I was about 13 at the time) and then when I tried to put my clothes back on, he made me get in the car and drove me to the side of the highway. There, he told me that only pigs don't change their clothes while he pressed my face into the roadside gravel and asked, "Do you want to be a pig? This is how pigs live."

My parents could be good at being bad. And so, when I was a kid, I wished my parents would just go away and leave me alone. Alas, not all of us made out as lucky as Macaulay Culkin (twice!) and so I endured the dual dictatorship of Mother and Father. But in blood-boiling, tear-jerking moments, in the silent spaces of crying when I had to stop to catch my breath, I would wish my parents would just go away. I fought the experience of being stuck with them.

I never invited anyone over. I didn't want them to see where I came from, who I came from. And, when I was old enough to drive, I was old enough to drive away. I stayed at a runaway shelter in Raleigh for two weeks. I swore again and again that I would never be like my father, that I would never marry someone like my mother. But, in college, I realized something; my parents were finally gone. Dorms, apartments, whatever; the wish had

come true. I soon realized, however, that being determined to be "not my parents" was just as bad as becoming my parents because there were good parts to my parents, too. Then, during my sophomore year, my parents separated and now my mom reads books about how to start life over again and my dad buys gadgets and sleeps in a ramshackle house without furniture. And they became people. Stranger still, they became people that I loved because, being people I could live without, they became people I missed. Suddenly, I could imagine life after they died; and the regrets were relentless. I was good at being bad, as well. I would punch my father and literally bite the hand that fed me. I would make my mother cry and then I would laugh. But here's what I learned: the bloodline flows both ways. Just as we are our parents' children, they are our parents. And, just as we hate to see ourselves in photos or hear ourselves on tape, we are often uncomfortable with our parents because we are uncomfortable with ourselves. Whoever your father is, whatever your mother is like, be with them and learn to love them as people and friends; relationship, that horrible parent trap, is only a trap if you truly want to be on the other side of the wall: without parents. So, put this article away and call your mom or dad. Be a son, a daughter — a friend. Above all, be complete in your ability to love by being completely in love with your grandparents' children and your children's grandparents. Don't just love them, but strive to be in love with them.

CAMPUS FORUM

All letters sent to Campus Forum (opeal@botmail.com) are the property of Technician. Technician's editorial staff reserves the right to edit all Campus Forum letters for content and space. There is a strict limit of 400 words on Campus Forums.

Indian discord

ABCD...no I am not reciting the alphabets in English, but rather referring to the Indian-American student community at N.C. State. The abbreviation stands for "American Born Confused Desi." Before landing in U.S. from India, I have heard tales of the "cultural" hurdes that a freshly landed Indian has to face when accosted by an ABCD. I experienced something last week, however, which I have never experienced before: Last Thursday I went to the Talley Student Center to attend "Garba," an Indian cultural event. "Ekta," an organization founded by Indian-American students, had organized the event. The "Indians-from-India"

(IFIs) and the Indian-Americans (IAs) were behaving like two isolated groups. Very few IFIs and IAs mingled together. The IAs and IFIs were focusing more on "differences" than "similarities." Worse: they didn't seem to respect those differences. I am Tamil-speaking (my roots are from south India), brought up in Mumbai (west India). The diversity of India is so huge (significant cultural differences between north/west/south/east regions) that I am more of a "Mumbai-kar" than a "Chennai-ite." So when I go to Chennai, I can't relate to those people in certain areas/pects of life. I felt the difference right within India about being a MBCT (Mumbai-born-Confused Tamil)! I can understand the feeling of

"difference" that exists between IFIs and IAs. After all, when one grows up all his/her life in a particular country, one is bound to be affected more by the environment and its culture than by his/her genetic combinations alone. While the feeling of "difference" that exists can be appreciated, the feeling of "better-than-thou" cannot be understood — let alone appreciated! The "ABCD" term started off as a mildly derogatory way of referring to the IAs by the IFIs. I have, ever since that day, attempted to remove ABCD from my vocabulary. It would be great if some of us from each group try had an repeatedly interacted with many people in the other group. I think it is worth the effort because the IAs and IFIs share a

lot more than they think they do. Probably Manri and Ekta can come together and dance to the tunes of Garba together next time around. Let us remove the discord that surrounds the two groups. Vijay Iyer Graduate Student Computer Networking Confedrate 'diot'

he was asking for it, to me. If he would have gotten killed, it would have been tragic, but it also would have removed a more idiot from the gene pool. Being familiar with the attitudes that Confederate flag wavers have and also knowing how they behave when drunk leads me to consider a strong possibility that he may have thought he was on some kind of epithet-bolting one-man crusade as he staggered through a neighborhood where he most probably didn't live. Of course I am speculating and stereotyping, which is really not a nice thing to do, but I still can't help comparing him to other likely contenders for the local Darwin Awards.

Richard loves his family members; they are the only people allowed to call him Tish Momo. Email him at ncsu_writer@yahoo.com Junior Electrical Engineering Corporations offer NCSU 'a favor' The notion that the university is selling its students — and their education — out to Corporate America is a distorted one. The purpose of a university — especially N.C. State — is not only to educate the students who attend it, but to also serve the people in the community around it. Corporations such as Lucent Technologies and Proctor and Gamble are influential parts of the community and deserve the right to access and complement



The Other Hand American politics: Table for two or Three's company?

Nathan Lintner
Staff Columnist

Disclaimer: When the topic of this debate was presented to Technician's columnists, it soon became apparent that no one (including myself) was overly enthused about defending the current two-party system. Reluctantly, I, although a novice in both journalism and written debate, decided to make a political move, volunteering my services in the hope that a favorable impression would be made in the minds of my colleagues. I don't know if my desired effect was achieved but I soon found myself the chosen author of a two-party apology. I should say mine was not altogether a maneuver toward an improved image. I enjoy a formidable challenge, and this seemed as good as any. Still I must ask, if indeed my production is to be judged, that it not exceed the assumption one would have of a drowsy man's attempts to breathe. But enough about me, let's talk politics.

The system we currently have in place is, for the most part, one of two parties. Although challenges have come forth in the past, none of them have achieved more than stealing votes from either a Republican or a Democrat. But this is not a reasonable assertion as to why more parties are futile. Simply lacking the following of an older party is a consequence of loyalty, not ability. If one is to assert

that two parties are sufficient, a better argument must be proposed.

First, I would like to point out the initial opinion I feel when I hear talk of a third, fourth, or fifth party. Many people — especially youth — seem to be upset that if and when they enter the voting booth, they only have two real choices. I am more inclined, however, to believe that it's not the number that bothers them, but the choices.

Proponents of multi-parties would rather see Republicans and Democrats gone completely than a two-page list of viable choices. Are Libertarians really angry because there are only two parties, or because they're not seriously considered as one of them? When I hear complaints about debate exclusion or unfair coverage, I feel that they are more the result of not being taken seriously than a cry for limitless inclusion (then again, I'm a registered Republican, so maybe I don't want to see more opposition to my party).

The current two party system is not only sufficient, but safe. Consider the possibility of a ternary system. Imagine walking into the booth and seeing ten equally viable candidates to choose from. Now consider that at the end of the day, one candidate receives 15 percent of the nation's vote, another gets 12 percent, four receive 8 percent each, three win 9 percent each, one gets 4 percent and that last

10 percent of voters don't bother showing up. Theoretically, the candidate who received 15 percent of the nation's endorsement would win, meaning 85 percent of the entire country would be under the control of the victorious 15 percent.

Although this is a poor example, the possibility of a minority faction controlling the majority could easily arise. With five, six, or ten parties occupying Congress, a majority party would be nearly impossible, and initiating legislation could get ugly. With a two party system, there is the chance for a large part of the country to be satisfied (forgetting Clinton for a moment) with the person in the executive office. Furthermore, if one of the two parties doesn't win the White House, they know they have a chance of controlling (or at least being largely and effectively represented) in Congress.

Two-party politics is the way to go. That doesn't necessarily mean that they have to be Republican and Democrat, but more than two could cause some problems that I don't believe people consider when talking about an ideal setting of holistic fairness.

Nathan Lintner
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Richard Morgan
Staff Columnist

Wow! Have you seen George W. Bush and Al Gore electrify the presidential elections? I mean, Bush has done nothing more than revolutionize Republicanism with his compassionate conservatism and Gore has broken dozens of glass ceilings by selecting the first Orthodox Jew to appear on a national ticket. Politics is changing, and only for the better.

Wait a second, though. What did the *Los Angeles Times* write about the 1996 Republican convention in San Diego? Oh yeah: I remember: "[Presidential nominee Bob Dole] has made a bold attempt...to shift the spotlight away from the hard-edged image of the Republican Congress towards [i.e.] summer brand of 'compassionate conservatism.'" But maybe I don't understand. That was in the old Gingrich/Linbaugh days; the Republicans are inclusive now. They have Colin Powell and Condoleezza Rice. They have blind mountaineer recite the Pledge of Allegiance and a rabbi leading prayer; a black woman sang the *Star Spangled Banner* and a Latino shouted, "Puerto Rico, I love you!" They even had openly gay Republican Representative Jim Kolbe give a talk. Talk about the City of Brotherly Love! How can you top gay Republicans and Jewish prayers?

Oh yeah, by picking a Jewish vice presidential nominee and being endorsed by dozens of gay activists — group. Yeah, Democrats! That's where the real hope in America lies! Forget policy! We need a president who can kiss his wife with passion! We need a president who can pull off either professional dark suits or dress-down earth tones! We need a president who can pretend to be John Kennedy Sr. — except boring and without Marilyn Monroe! Al Gore knows what the American people want. He showed up on MTV (what's more American than that?) and explicitly stated that he's not *not* against Napster.

Wait a second, though. Doesn't Al Gore own stock in an oil company just like those money-hungry Republicans on the ticket? When he talks about keeping the economic prosperity rolling, he really means keep it rolling, for the rich. Democrats have a funny way of leaving off the ends of phrases like that, like when they talk about a woman's right to choose...how to kill their baby.

Yep. Unfortunately, what U.S. politics' two-party system comes down to is nothing more than a privatized process of corporate interest and family dynasty. The nepotism in Washington is worse than in the Ivy League (which, coincidentally, is where most of them come from). But, surely, two parties is all we have (realistically), so let's at least try to entertain the choices.

First, we have Bush, who told Reuters News Service that a document was "clearly a budget. It's got a lot of numbers in it." Pushing education by announcing his "Reading First" program, he declared that "Reading is the basics for all learning." Think about that one.

Second, we have Gore, who went to Vietnam and knows the horrors of war. But he also favors rights to partial-birth abortion. Sure, he's got a Jewish vice presidential nominee on his ticket, but he also has a Buddhist in his wallet.

Oh well. That's politics for you: the lesser two evils. Wrong. The 400-pound elephant being ignored (and the 400-pound donkey for that matter) is the introduction of another party.

This is not an endorsement for Nader or Buchanan or Libertarians or Communists or Jesse Ventura; this is an endorsement of choice. Competition needs three: GM and Ford need Chrysler; McDonald's and Burger King need Wendy's.

Tuesday night, we watched a debate where two men wore the same suit — both literally and metaphorically. Election 2000 is what many call the "Wizard of Oz" ticket; one man is in need of a brain and one man is in need of a heart. All we need now is some third party lion to have the guts to seek some courage.

Richard Morgan
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FORUM

Continued from Page 4

the resources of an educational institution such as NCSCU is a university centered upon technology-oriented research and development. The pace at which advancements are made due to this research is mind-boggling. Citizens and corporations must coexist and cooperate to benefit the people they serve.

The university is not selling the students out of a "legitimate, holistic education"; it is investing in a practical and well-rounded one. The university is going the students a favor by inviting corporations to use its facilities and resources to solve their problems. This allows students to participate in real-world problem solving that doesn't have a predetermined solution like a problem from a run-of-the-mill textbook.

Without corporate involvement the university would become a technological hermit whose graduates have no real concept of what type of work their degree entails. What good is a degree if you don't know how to use it?

There is also the issue of having a corporation's name associated with the universities. With all the fuss about tuition increases, one would think that a simple advertisement, which can reduce the cost of something that students would otherwise be paying for, out-of-pocket would be welcome. I for one do not mind having a Nike swoosh on a basketball uniform or a Tommy Hilff logo on a

daily planner, as long as it means that I did not pay for it. If you must increase cost in one area, there is nothing wrong with trying to offset it in another.

Corporate involvement in the university is not a bane to its students; it is a resource that if exploited correctly, can make the university stronger.

John Kyle Pergerson
Sophomore
Aerospace Engineering

Yahoo! ads 'offensive'

I was thinking about writing to let you guys at *Technician* that I find those 812 x 11" advertisements for Yahoo! very offensive.

Then, I really made my mind to contact you after seeing these pieces of paper strewn everywhere all day today — even on Hillsborough Street. Please stop this! This is a huge waste of paper, the messages I've seen so far are offensive and the letter (not to mention the thoughtless people who throw them on the ground) is disgusting. Thank you.

Debbie Ginsberg
Sophomore
Social Work

Yahoo! ads still 'offensive'

I am employed at the N.C. State University College of Veterinary Medicine. Last Friday several copies of *Technician* were distributed at the Veterinary School for stu-

dents and staff. They were even made available as reading material in the waiting rooms of the Veterinary Teaching Hospital.

Imagine the distasteful surprise that awaited the unsuspecting readers of Friday's advertising when the offensive advertisement piece by mail.yahoo.com dropped out of the paper!

I do not believe the university should censor editorial content of the student newspaper, but I do believe that the staff of the newspaper has a responsibility to the university community to maintain certain standards for advertising copy contained within the newspaper which bears the name "N.C. State University."

The advertisement that appeared in Friday's edition was suited for an issue of *Playboy* — not an issue of *Technician*. As a Christian, parent, staff member, and taxpayer, I was disappointed to see the lack of consideration to others and lack of responsibility shown by the advertising staff of *Technician*. I believe that the staff and students who have been offended by this advertisement deserve a public apology from the advertiser and *Technician* staff. I hope that more consideration will be given to all members of the university community when *Technician*'s advertising staff approves advertisements for publication.

Leslie Carpenter
Information Systems Liaison
Veterinary School

Do people matter anymore?



Robert Lalail
Staff Columnist

Scientific American recently discussed a new method of voting whereby, instead of casting a ballot for a particular candidate, citizens would rank each candidate according to how they matched the voter's views. The candidate with the most favorable average ranking would win. For example, a Xie might have a ballot that looks like this: 1. Nader, 2. Gore, 3. Bush, 4. Satan, 5. Buchanan.

This new voting system would allow Naderites (and other third-party supporters) to vote for their candidate without putting a major candidate like Bush, who has opposite views, into office. Philosophically, the new system would transform a citizen's vote from something that supports a specific candidate to something that supports a general agenda/policy ideology. Such a transformation is not outrageous, because it conforms to the "spirit of democracy," it gives the individual unprecedented power to rule their lives.

But this new voting system is a proposal that will not soon be discussed in the mass media, and whose chances of being implemented are similar to those of Newt Gingrich not reaching for a Twinkie.

The eventual failure of this proposed system can be attributed to the government-corporate complex that has all the powers of "governance" locked up in money and bureaucracy.

Politicians who are members of the Tweedle-Dum and Tweedle-Dee parties have no intention of threatening that power. Witness the election commission's refusal to allow third-party candidates into the presidential debates; such actions are a good example of how politicians use bureaucracy to keep the "clubhouse" closed.

One must not forget about corporations and how they would fare under the new system. Big business would no longer know in which cubicles to invest their money (conceivably, though, they could buy the whole brothel). A new voting system would undermine a company's ability to usurp the will of the people; therefore, it's also natural for the corporate world to oppose such a proposal.

But this analysis so far is unfair, because it does not account for the below-average intelligence of the American public. By far, most Americans have no interest in what manner the government-corporate complex violates them. Combine the feelings that voting doesn't matter and that ordinary people can't affect government, and — *voilà!* The result is the unthinkable, uncaring American citizen who is content to graze on the grassy knoll while the government-corporate complex leads them to slaughter.

What solution should be applied to this disconnected, uncaring government problem? One can easily picture conservatives jumping up and down, wagging their tails, and yelping (in eerie unity, mind you): "Get

rid of government!" But such a solution does absolutely nothing to return responsibility and control back to the people. Dismantling government only creates opportunities for another group of elites (corporations, as if you didn't know) to have their way with the American public.

The only government that can return power to the people is one that requires the active participation of individuals to function. In addition, this government has to emphasize community rights, the rights of citizens to decide how tax dollars are spent and how problems are solved in their localities. The people who live in a community are best suited to identify a problem, and they eventually are the ones who will solve it. It makes no sense for a foreign body to presume superior wisdom to local citizens simply because it can gather more resources.

Unfortunately, such a government doesn't exist and hasn't existed. Even the Constitution fails at providing a framework that requires the bottom-up participation of citizens. But because of the state of society and government today, participatory democracy may indeed remain a dream as unrealized as Chuck Norris' singing ability (or something equally ridiculous and improbable).

Robert Lalail
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(participatory democracy would have created a better tag line)

TECHNICIAN
Mag. Vol. 10
834 Register

The Best of the New Generation

Margee Anne Fox : Modern Woman, 1984

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Open Seven Days a Week

Getting Marvel back on top

Zack Smith
Comics Guru

In recent years, the comics industry has been trying to come back from a state of decline and Marvel Comics has been hit worse than most. An attempt to make Marvel an all-out multimedia company in the early 1990s backfired badly, resulting in the company being forced to declare bankruptcy and many fans being driven away from their books. Despite successful theatrical adaptations of some of their characters (such as 1998's "Blade," this past summer's "X-Men" and the forthcoming "Spider-Man"), comic sales have not dramatically increased and the company posted a loss of nearly \$30 million over the past year. The most successful branch of the company, both creatively and sales-wise, was a small group of books edited by a man named Joe Quesada.

That man has now been made the Editor-in-Chief of Marvel Comics.

Over the last 10 years, Quesada has risen from relative obscurity to the head of the largest comics company in the world. After penciling a number of forgettable books, he found his star on the rise following his dynamic work on a pair of a low-profile DC miniseries called "The Ray" and "Batman: Sword of Azrael," in the early 1990s. Readers flocked to the books, which attracted surprisingly strong sales and re-prints. He was called in to redesign the Batman costume for a story line, and had brief but acclaimed runs on the Valiant comic "Ninjak" and the X-Men spinoff book "X-Factor."

From 1995 to 1998, he was primarily involved with his own company, Event Comics, which published such books as "22 Brides," "Painkiller Jane" and "Ash," which was optioned as an animated feature film at Dreamworks, to be directed by "Akira" director Katsuhiro Otomo. In 1998, he was approached by Marvel to produce a line of books featuring some of their second-tier characters. In September of that year, the new "Marvel Knights" line launched with the books "The Inhumans," "Punisher," "The Black Panther" and as its centerpiece, a re-launch of the long-running book "Daredevil" illustrated by Quesada and written by independent film director Kevin Smith. The books were major hits and subsequent efforts proved their success wasn't a fluke. Now Quesada has been placed in charge of turning the entire line of Marvel books around.

"I was a fan of a lot of Marvel books when I was a kid," Quesada admits. "Thor" was my favorite... "Spider-Man," "Hulk,"



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JOE QUESADA
AND KEVIN SMITH
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"Fantastic Four".... all Marvel was just great.

"I think one major reason why the industry's been losing readers has been, and this may be a cliché, but it's true, is that people just keep forgetting the adage 'Every issue is someone's first issue.' There's been a lack of imagination, a lack of craftsmanship, but most of all, there's been a lack of accessibility. As a casual reader, I can't even follow what's going on in 'X-Men' these days, and that shouldn't be happening."

Quesada has already taken several steps to introduce new readers. One of the company's most-touted new programs, started before Quesada's promotion but now under his aegis, is

"Ultimate Marvel," a controversial new line of comics that starts the continuity of new characters back at ground zero. The first of the "Ultimate Marvel" books, "Ultimate Spider-Man," launched last month to brisk sales and generally good reviews; a second book, "Ultimate X-Men" is to launch in December. In addition, a magazine collecting the comics along with original articles, "Ultimate Marvel," is to launch Jan. 16 of next year. Quesada also confirms that changes are being made in the way new talent is brought in.

"We just hired ['Babylon 5'] creator Joe Straczynski to write 'Amazing Spider-Man' for next year, and these kind of negotiations usually take months, and we did them in three days. That's it. We've got some people in Management now that are willing to look at Marvel as a publishing company, and are trying to get the material out there and into the hands of people who want to read it."

"The publishing part of the company is very healthy right now, which is a testament to the popularity of the characters... whether we hit a home run or a single with a book, we know they're characters people

will buy. We're trying to change some things... we're trying to build a definite back-list [of Trade Paperback collections of material], because we need to get more copies out there and get the prices of what we have down. We looked at some reports, and DC has twice as many collections out there in bookstores, comic shops, they're doing really well, but in terms of dollar amounts, we're out-selling them. We could be outselling them, but we aren't printing enough books! That just doesn't make any sense, that's definitely something that's going to change."

Quesada adds that once a back-list is in place, he's willing to consider instituting a "Mature Readers" line of comics, similar to DC's acclaimed "Vertigo" line. "That stuff tends to sell a lot better in collections than in monthly format, so getting a back-list into place is essential... it's a different audience, so it's something we need to look into."

Despite his new workload, Quesada plans to try to continue writing and drawing comics when he gets the chance. "I don't want to stop drawing... I just have that time when I make myself work on something. A lot of people who make the shift [to editing]... well, I don't know what changes, but it sometimes seems like they lose something, the skills just go, and I don't want to lose those skills."

"I'm just a regular guy really. I work from eight in the morning to nine at night, I've got a house in Jersey and an apartment in the city. I've got a pregnant wife so you know things'll get more complicated soon... and I can't promise that I won't get 'screwed over by the suits' but you know what? I can always say 'F---k it. I've got somewhere else to go.' I can write my own stuff, draw my own stuff... I was comfortable doing it before and I can do it again if I need to. But I feel like I can change things, and I'm here to make a difference. I mean, this was Stan Lee's job. How bad can it be?"

"Just keep an eye on what we're doing. I don't think you'll be disappointed..." When asked how it feels to be in his position, Quesada takes a moment to think of the right words. "Cool," he finally says. "Really, really cool." Although you can't see his face on the other end of the phone, you can almost see him smiling.



Love the short ones

"Love and Sex" is big on laughs, short on time.

Joel Isaac Frady
Staff Writer

Love and Sex

★★★

Director:
Valerie Breiman
Starring:
Famke Janssen
Jon Favreau

Valerie Breiman's "Love and Sex" feels like two different movies: the first half of the film is a witty, sarcastic view of dating from a female's perspective that is full of great dialogue and rich comedy, while the second half drops a notch and plays like your typical romantic comedy.

The film revolves around Kate Wells (Famke Janssen, Jean Grey in "X-Men"), a journalist who is having trouble on her latest assignment, which is to write a column about the perfect relationship. The first half of the film plays a lot like a female version of "High Fidelity," as Kate begins to discuss the most important of her past relationships with the audience.

Like "Fidelity," it begins with one from the seventh grade, set-

ting up the model for all the rest of her relationships. Dating is explained ("It's like a minefield, you walk in and get blown to pieces before you put yourself back together and take a few more blind steps") through her first few relationships (the first two are both riots) in a dry, witty way. This tone ends when she meets Adam (Jon Favreau, writer and star of "Swingers") and the film then focuses full attention (and the remainder of the film) on their relationship. While this is still fairly interesting, it begins to fall prey to most of the clichés that your normal romantic comedies fall victim to. The filmmakers lose the focus of the film (that of Kate writing the article) and when it finally cuts back to her writing the article the audience has forgotten that she was writing one. All attention has, by then, been focused on Adam and Kate staying together.

The leads both give great performances. Janssen is exactly what a romantic comedy needs out of its lead: beauty with brains and a good touch of sarcasm. Favreau, who has barely

been seen since "Swingers," plays this role with charm and energy; it's a pity he doesn't do more in the film than he does.

One great problem this film has is its waste of an excellent supporting cast. Cheri Oteri of "Saturday Night Live" fame has about two scenes playing Janssen's co-worker and best friend, but afterwards one wonders why they even bothered casting her. She does absolutely

nothing with her comedic talents, and her two scenes are very short. One also wonders how much of her got left on the editing room floor (also a decision that wouldn't make much sense: the film only runs 82 minutes). Noah Emmerich (who was excellent as Marlon in "The Truman Show") also plays one of Kate's past boyfriends and is around for about five minutes before he disappears. This does-

n't say much for the cast, considering he's billed directly after Janssen and Favreau.

Even with its mistakes, "Love and Sex" is still a funny, smart movie. This is the kind of movie a female would call "cute," but isn't one of those "cute" movies that have men painfully squirming in their seats as their ditzy girlfriends sit beside them and gawk at Julia Roberts and Richard Gere flirt-

ing like third graders. It's also short, maybe even a bit too short, but short is better than those romantic comedies that have the audience begging for it to end (anyone remember "You've Got Mail" or "Runaway Bride"). The film also has the best celebrity cameo of the year, but that's another you'll have to see for yourself.



Famke Janssen isn't running around with some guy with foot-long razor sharp claws and sideburns in this movie. (COURTESY FROM HAVEL.COM)

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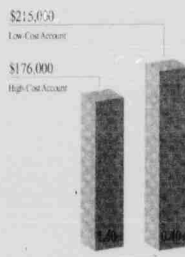
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FLAMES

Continued from Page 12

fied, allowing Marcus Johnson to help control midfield play. After missing play with a concussion, David Snoke has returned to the midfield, giving the team even more options and depth in that facet.

Liberty tends to wear down teams, scoring over 80 percent of its goals in the second half. The depth that is added with the return of these players should

help offset Wolfpack fatigue during the final 45 minutes.

Defensively, the Wolfpack defense will be charged with shutting down Liberty forward Jose Gomez, who has scored five goals this season. The leading scorers for State are Lee Baldwin and Nick Olivencia, each with four goals.

With two tough games against Wake and Duke looming, a Pack win could bolster its confidence heading into those crucial ACC match-ups.

The game is set for 3:30 p.m. at the Method Road Soccer Complex.

WOLFPACK NOTES
S O C C E R

Karim out for the season

Midfielder Michael Karim will redshirt this season after missing the first month of the season with an ankle injury. Karim suffered the injury in the opening game of the season against High Point.

Scoring deficit

N.C. State has been outscored 17-2 in Atlantic Coast Conference play so far

this season.

The road won't necessarily get easier, with contests against Wake Forest, Duke and No. 10 North Carolina.

Liberty undefeated against State

The last time the Liberty Flames were at Method Road Soccer Stadium, it beat State 5-0. The two teams were supposed to play last year, but the game was rained out.

So, Liberty's career record against State is 1-0.

al deficit is in danger of swelling even more?

GODFREY

Continued from Page 12

win of the year, a 1-0 victory over Elon.

Scott leads the team in scoring with six goals, and is putting herself in position to vie for All-ACC honors. But it's obvious, when one watches the soccer team play, that no player on Laura Kerrigan's soccer team really thinks about individual awards.

Kerrigan, who always stresses "team play" in interviews, has sold her players on the importance of team chemistry, and at 8-4-1, the Pack can secure an NCAA berth with two more conference wins.

They play together. They play well. They are exciting.

Did the economic proposals of the presidential candidates make you fearful of misuse of budget surplus? Do you think the feder-

It's possible that you are actually more worried about State's 21-point deficit Las Vegas odds makers predicted for the Saturday football game at Clemson.

Well, when one looks at the odds on the game one thing is clear. On paper, Clemson leads the nation in total defense and is second in total offense (516 yards per game), making them favored in any game they play.

What isn't so clear is how the lessons learned by the Pack in three too-close-for-comfort games will factor into the ACC game.

And with the experience in the four games the Pack has played, your heart has to tell you it will be closer.

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NOTES

Continued from Page 12

Griffey Jr. deal this February, singled to start the 10th.

Alex Rodriguez popped out before Cameron, once projected as the White Sox's next star, was nearly picked off first.

After manager Lou Piniella came out of the dugout and talked to him, Cameron stole second two pitches later.

Martinez, who led the AL with 145 RBI and had a career-high 37 homers, hit a two-run homer to left field to silence a crowd of 45,290 that came to see the White Sox's first playoff appearance in seven years. Olerud followed with a long shot to center.

Jose Mesa, who escaped a jam in the White Sox ninth, was the

Seattle won eight of its final nine road games in the regular season, including a win over Anaheim in the last day to clinch the wild card.

The White Sox, who led the majors in scoring and had the best record in baseball, stranded 10 runners.

Charles Johnson, the only White Sox player with a World Series ring, led off the bottom of the ninth with a bloop single. Two outs later, Jose Mesa intentionally walked Frank Thomas and retired Magglio Ordonez on a fly ball with runners at first and second.

Foulke, who saved 34 games this season, had given up just one run in his previous 14 2/3 innings of the regular season.



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Men's soccer faces battle with Flames



Marcus Johnson battles Liberty today.

◆ **Liberty has beaten Wake Forest, but lost to Georgia Southern, a team N.C. State demolished.**

Steve Thompson

Staff Writer

When the N.C. State men's soccer team takes the field Wednesday afternoon against Liberty, its chances of winning will likely depend on which Liberty team shows up.

The enigmatic Flames (4-3-1) have posted some impressive wins this season, yet it has also had some disappointing results.

The Wolfpack (1-6-2, 0-3 Atlantic Coast Conference) have been more predictable, however. Following a 6-0 win against Georgia Southern last Wednesday, State quickly returned to the season's pattern of losing by getting drubbed 6-1 by No. 7 Virginia Sunday afternoon.

Still, head coach George Tarantini remains confident.

"This team is one of the best teams I've ever had attitude-wise," Tarantini said.

WHAT: M. SOGGER VS. LIBERTY

WHEN: TODAY, 3:30 P.M.

WHERE: METHOD ROAD

Excluding the Georgia Southern and High Point games, the Pack has only managed to score five goals in the other seven games. In those same games, State has allowed 25 tallies.

While the Wolfpack's season has been relatively monochromatic, Liberty has had diverse results.

Following three defeats to begin the season, the Flames won four straight games. With its 1-1 tie to Charleston Southern in its most recent game, Liberty extended its unbeaten streak to

five games entering the match with the Pack.

The unbeaten streak includes a 4-2 win over then No. 5 Wake Forest. The Wolfpack, who have been thoroughly dominated by Wake Forest over the past five years, probably have taken notice.

In addition to beaten Wake, Liberty has also beaten High Point and Elon, two teams State struggled against this season.

All is not lost for the Pack, however. Liberty's early results include some baffling defeats.

Against the same Georgia Southern team that State demolished 6-0 last Wednesday, Liberty struggled and lost 1-0. The Flames have also lost to George Washington and American.

If the Pack is to win, it will need the solid play and efficiency it had vs. Georgia Southern.

With the return of sweeper Eric Kauffman, the defense has been solid-

athletics

Washington, Wolfpack and the playoffs

The Major League Baseball playoffs. Wolfpack women's soccer and Clemson football weren't necessarily on the minds of people who were able to tune into the Presidential debates Wednesday night.

He could any of these three topics be as entertaining as George W. Bush stumbling over his cue cards like a three-legged dog on a treadmill?

Then again, there were probably more than a few disenchanted baseball fans who hoped to tune into the Yankees-A's game only to see the candidates for the highest office in the country going at each other.

In their interest, let's talk about baseball.

With playoff spots settled, the White Sox head into the postseason play in search of the World Championship they haven't won since 1917. In early July, the Sox looked like the best team in baseball. A defense-deficient infield didn't hurt them when their hitters were overpowering opposing pitchers, and James Baldwin was as reliable as any pitcher in the game.

Three months later, Baldwin has a sore shoulder, and the middle infield is still error-prone. Jerry Manuel, as cerebral as he tries to be about baseball, is going to be hard pressed to formulate a solution to his team's problems. Alas, Chicago is done.

That said, the Mariners, a team led by former Reds skipper Lou Piniella and New York Yankees are going to make the American League Championship Series memorable if the 1995 Divisional Series between the two is any precursor.

The Seattle starting lineup matches up well with New York's. But when Piniella looks to his bench, he won't have the star-studded reserves a \$112 million payroll allows three-time World Champion Joe Torre to play with.

The Yanks were flat in September, October is when Bud Selig crowns a champion though.

Bobby Cox, ironically, bears a burden again this postseason (that became heavier with Atlanta's 7-5 loss to the Cardinals yesterday). The man who manages baseball's modern era National League dynasty has nine division titles to his credit, five National League pennants, but only one World Series ring.

In the National League, the San Francisco Giants and New York Mets battle in the Divisional Series for the actual NL pennant (vs. St. Louis and Atlanta).

If Mike Piazza plays as well against the Giants as he did in the regular season (he hit .467 against them), the Wild Card Mets should be able to slip into the NLCS, and stick it to whoever survives the Braves-Cardinals series.

The Mets' pitching is consistent, and particularly good in games with the Giants. Mike Hampton is 9-0 in 15 career starts against the Giants and Al Leiter has played in three Series.

A Subway Series has always intrigued baseball fans, and 2000 could bring one.

Did you think that the Presidential debates from Massachusetts lacked excitement?

If you thought the 90-minute showcase for political rhetoric was boring, the women's soccer game at Method Road Soccer Stadium Wednesday certainly wasn't.

A goal by Laura Scott in the 90th minute gave State its eighth

last second VICTORY

◆ **Laura Scott scored at the buzzer to give N.C. State's women's soccer team an exciting win over Elon.**

Jerry Moore

Staff Writer

For the first 89-59 of Tuesday's match between N.C. State and Elon, it appeared painfully obvious that neither team would score a goal.

The Phoenix had attempted only one shot, did not have a legitimate scoring chance and never challenged N.C. State goalkeeper Gretchen Lear.

The Wolfpack had rifled 17 shots in the direction of Elon's goal, but each one was either off target, saved by goalkeeper Sommer Cork or cleared off the line by Phoenix defenders.

Then, just as the seconds on the clock wound down through the single digits, State sophomore forward Laura Scott stole the ball out of the air nearly 30 yards from Elon's goal. In one sweeping kick, she lifted a shot that barely cleared Cork's leaping attempt to save it.

The ball landed in the back of the net

just as the horn at Method Road Soccer Stadium pierced the air. Miraculously, the Wolfpack had broken the deadlock and snagged a 1-0 victory over the Phoenix.

The State bench erupted and mobbed Scott near midfield. The entire squad fell to the turf in one sweaty, joyous heap.

"I was giving it all I could and just hoping the ball would bounce over to me," Scott said of her team-leading sixth goal of the season. "I knew that if it did, I was going to nail it towards the goal. Even I was amazed when it went in."

State head coach Laura Kerrigan was equally impressed with the goal.

"I've never seen such an unbelievable finish," she said. "It was just a tremendous goal by Laura Scott."

State (8-4-1, 1-1 Atlantic Coast Conference) came out aggressively from the opening whistle. Six of the first seven fouls of the match were called against the Pack, but the midfield kept the action almost exclusively in State's offensive end.

The unseasonably hot weather caused both teams to rotate in substitutions frequently throughout the match. It seemed neither side was able to find its rhythm.

State's inability to score was certainly not due to a lack of chances. In addition to getting off 17 shots, the Pack had 13 corner kicks.

On several occasions, shots found their way past Elon keeper Cork, only to be saved by deflections and diving stops by Phoenix defenders.

As the game progressed, it didn't follow State's ideal script. The players were noticeably frustrated with their string of missed scoring chances.

"We had shot after shot," said Scott. "I was thinking, 'Somebody put it away.'"

The defense continually stopped runs by Phoenix forwards. Erin Bushey and her defensive teammates stymied all Phoenix scoring threats before they could get to



Jaci Harper tries to get past an Elon defender in State's 1-0 win.

Lear. The match was eerily similar to the last time State took the field at Method Road. On Aug. 26, the Pack thoroughly outplayed East Carolina, only to lose on a goal in the final minute. Tuesday, State had the opportunity to turn the tables and enjoy a last-second thrill.

After the initial exuberance of the winning goal had subsided, Kerrigan commented on Elon (3-9) and the problems the Phoenix gave her squad.

"Elon deserves a lot of credit for playing tough. They took advantage of the opportunities they had," she said. "We were forced to make an unbelievable finish at the end."

State began the week at No. 7 in the NSCAA Southeast regional rankings. After victories over Maryland and Elon, the Pack has won four games in a row, and the team's confidence is soaring.

"It has been such a thrill to get these wins," said Scott. "Now the whole team is coming together."

After Tuesday's narrow margin of victory, Kerrigan stressed that her team must learn from the game. She will address several aspects of her squad's play in this week's practices leading up to the Oct. 11 matchup with defending national champion North Carolina.

"We need to get over our fatigue and work on corner kicks," she said. "We've been focusing on our defense and possession up to this point, so now we need to turn to the forwards."

If the Pack has aspirations of upsetting the Tar Heels, scoring is a must. Carolina's potent offense boasts three of the top five goal-scorers in the ACC.

Against UNC, State will also have to show more enthusiasm. Scott admitted that the team's intensity against Elon left something to be desired.

"Today we didn't come out as pumped up as we usually are," she said. "Even so, we found a way to finish."



Carmen Israel protects the ball.

Baseball Playoff Notes

Cardinals rough up Maddux

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Tony La Russa won his Game 1 gamble, although not the way he had planned.

The St. Louis Cardinals scored six runs off Greg Maddux and Atlanta's shoddy defense in the first inning and then survived rookie Rick Ankiel's epic wildness for a 7-5 victory over the Braves in their NL playoff opener Tuesday.

Ankiel, 21, was a surprise starter. He was only 11-7 in the regular season, but his 3.50 ERA led the staff and he had a 7-2 record at Busch Stadium.

Ankiel looked like a kid three years removed from high school, which he is, becoming the first pitcher in 110 years to throw five wild pitches in one inning as the Braves scored four runs in the third.

"He threw some outstanding pitches and he threw some funny ones that weren't so outstanding," La Russa said. "I mean, there's no doubt about it, he struggled."

But he didn't hesitate to say Ankiel will start again in Game 4 on Sunday, if the best-of-5 series goes that long.

"If we're going to win enough games, Mr. Ankiel is going to have to be there for us," La Russa said.

La Russa said Ankiel will do better after he and catcher Carlos Hernandez, who caught him for the first time, review game tapes. Ankiel wanted no part of that.

"I'm not even going to go back and look at it," Ankiel said. "Why look at something bad?"

With the help of two errors and a fly ball that dropped between Gold Glove center fielder Andruw Jones and left fielder Reggie Sanders for a hit, St. Louis got to Maddux in the first.

"A crazy inning where things kind of went haywire," Braves pitching coach Leo Mazzone said. "I guess that's the best way to describe it."

Maddux lasted four innings, giving up seven runs — five earned — and nine hits. But Maddux, who dropped to 10-11 in the postseason, didn't seem that unhappy about his outing or his stuff.

"It was good," Maddux said. "No better or worse than it's been the last couple of months."

Placido Polanco, who started ahead of slumping Fernando Tatís and went 3-for-4, hit a two-run single as the Cardinals tied a postseason record for runs in the opening inning. Jim Edmonds added a home run in the fourth.

Atlanta made three errors in all, contributing to two unearned runs, just two days after Chipper Jones' ninth-inning error cost the defending NL champions home-field advantage in the first round.

Mariners win in extra innings

CHICAGO (AP) — Mike Cameron unnerved his former team with his speed, then Edgar Martinez and John Olerud provided the power for the Seattle Mariners.

Martinez hit a two-run homer in the 10th inning after Cameron's stolen base, and Olerud followed with a home run as Seattle beat the Chicago White Sox 7-4 in the opener of their AL Division Series on Tuesday.

The consecutive homers came off Chicago relief ace Keith Foulke, who'd surrendered just nine home runs all season in 88 innings.

Cameron, traded away by the White Sox two years ago to Cincinnati and acquired by the Mariners in the Ken