

4.



The Hunt is over
Mike Easley replaced Jim Hunt as governor. Read about unrelated topics in Opinion, page 4.

6.



Can I get a...
A review of Sandler's latest, student mothers and Jay-Z new album review from U-Wire in A&E.

10.



Racing toward Districts
Beth Fanner and the N.C. State cross country teams get their shot at Nationals on Saturday.

Wednesday
November 8, 2000

TECHNICIAN

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NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1920

Today	Hi 72
	Lo 61
Tomorrow	Hi 73
	Lo 57

SG officials pleased with NCSU vote

◆As a further incentive for students to vote, the polling site for Precinct 01-23 was moved to Witherspoon Student Center.

Lee Robertson
Staff Reporter

In an effort to make students at N.C. State more involved in the political process, several student leaders spent a great deal of time and effort to move the polling site for Precinct 01-23 from the Pullen Park Arts Center to Witherspoon Student Center.

There are 5,298 registered voters in Precinct 01-23. That figure includes students who registered with on-campus addresses and other non-students who live in the NCSU area. Of those 5,298 voters, 2,209 are registered Democrats, 1,439 are Republicans, 31 are Libertarians and 1,619 are unaffiliated or independent.

As of approximately 8 p.m. Tuesday, 1,622 people had voted in Witherspoon, a figure which a former judge in Precinct 01-23 said was "pretty good."

Brenda Fowler, precinct officials and facilities coordinator for

the Wake County Board of Elections, said that precinct 01-23 has historically had low voter turnout. College students make up the majority of the voters from this precinct, and they played a major factor in the decision to open a polling site on campus.

"We're bringing the site to the hub of [the students'] activities," said Fowler in an interview earlier this year.

Vinney Kalra, a junior in chemical engineering and Chairman of the Campus Life Committee, said the voting site on campus should increase voter turnout.

"I thought it was good to have it

on campus, because it's easier access for students, especially those who don't have the ability to go off campus," said Kalra.

"My guess is that more students from N.C. State will vote in the election because of the easier access," she said.

Brad Adams, a sophomore and member of the voter registration committee, said that voting was a "huge" success.

Adams noted that there were several local candidates outside of Witherspoon campaigning one last time.

"I think that their presence would indicate that citizens of

Wake County are taking note of Student Government's efforts to register student voters," said Adams.

Adams spent most of Monday night with a chalk machine spreading chalk around campus to direct students to Witherspoon.

"It appears that the posters, chalking and handbills may have been very effective in directing students to the polling site at Witherspoon," Adams said.

Voting at Witherspoon was not without problems, however. Many students who arrived to vote were told that Witherspoon was not the correct place. Many

students who filled out voter registration cards on campus mistakenly thought that Witherspoon would be their voting place. Other students came to vote only to be informed that the Wake County Board of Elections had no record of their registration.

No one can be entirely sure of the reasons for the numerous problems with voter registrations.

"This is a problem that will be addressed soon," said Adams.

According to Kalra, the lines for those students with registration problems were "enormous."

See POLLING, Page 3

Lead found at E.S. King

◆Lead-contaminated railings at E.S. King Village should be repainted by the end of the week.

James Gorman
Staff Reporter

This week, university housing officials expect contractors to finish repainting lead-contaminated hand-railings that line the outside walkways and stairs at the E.S. King Village residence complex.

As of Tuesday afternoon, the railings on buildings A through P had been repainted, and the rest, according to E.S. King Village Director Hany Younes, will be finished sometime later this week.

Housing officials see the repainting, which started Oct. 31, as a temporary measure until housing can install new hand-railings at the start of the next fiscal year.

The prompt to test for lead contamination in the hand-railings came from Angela Hicks, recently elected student "mayor" of E.S. King Village. Younes said that Hicks voiced concerns in the first week of October about the possibility of lead contamination in the hand-railings and apartments.

Hicks' concerns prompted university housing officials to investigate the current condition of the hand-rails, since tests performed in the early 1990s confirmed the presence

of lead in the hand-railings, but not in the walls of the apartment complexes.

David Rainer, head of Environmental Health and Public Safety, reported that his department's on-site survey found evidence of paint flaking on the rails. He added, however, that it was unlikely that the situation as it stood posed any immediate health emergencies.

"There were no flakes present on the ground near the railings," Rainer said. "There's nothing for anyone to pick up and eat, and it's unlikely that children would be gnawing on the rail-bars."

But because of the relatively poor state of the rails, Younes quickly received orders from Chancellor Marye Anne Fox and the Environmental Health and Safety department to repaint the hand-railings. His office worked with the University Facilities office to hire the contractors.

E.S. King residents were informed by flyer that contractors would be repainting sections of the dormitory.

"We wanted to act quickly in response to the request," said Younes. "We are not only trying our best to satisfy students, but to be ahead of their needs."

The coat of paint presently being applied, which is costing around \$20,000, is intended to deter further degradation of the rails, according to Younes. His office has already budgeted for

See KING, Page 3



Painters work to paint over lead-based paint from the railings at the E.S. King Village.



This portrait of the Design School dean Marvin Malecha by professor Maglanes puts a new spin on an old concept.

Election results mix close calls and overwhelming majorities

◆The N.C. higher education bond and each of the seven Wake County bonds on the ballot passed by at least 60 percent of the popular vote.

Andrew Buchert
Assistant News Editor

The results of the presidential race were still too close to call early Wednesday morning, with Texas governor and Republican presidential hopeful George W. Bush tied with Vice President and Democratic candidate Al Gore at 242 electoral votes well past midnight. Two-hundred seventy electoral votes are needed to win the election.

With approximately 68 percent of the nation's votes counted, Bush was slightly ahead of Gore in the popular vote, leading him 48.7 to 47.8 percent. Results were still pending in Oregon, Iowa, Wisconsin, Florida, Alaska and Hawaii.

As votes continued to be counted and individual state winners declared late into the night Tuesday and into the early hours Wednesday, it became apparent that the results from Florida would be key to the declaration of the next president of the U.S.

With approximately 86 percent of the

votes for president counted in Florida early Wednesday morning, the race was very close, with Bush leading Gore in the popular vote 50 to 48 percent. Third party candidate Ralph Nader had received 2 percent of the state's popular vote.

Bush was declared the winner in North Carolina early Tuesday night, clearly leading Gore 56 to 43 percent. N.C. has 14 electoral votes. Bush also swept his home state of Texas, worth 32 electoral votes, boasting a 60 to 38 percent lead over Gore.

Gore, however, took California soon after polls closed on the west coast, winning an influential 54 electoral votes.

In the N.C. gubernatorial race, Attorney General and Democratic candidate Mike Easley was declared the winner over Republican candidate Richard Vinroot early Tuesday evening. With approximately 94 percent of the total N.C. vote counted, Easley led Vinroot 52 to 46 percent. Libertarian Barbara Howe received 1.5 percent of the total N.C. gubernatorial vote.

Democrat Beverly Perdue made history Tuesday night when she became the first female elected to the position of N.C.

lieutenant governor. Perdue was declared the winner over Republican Betsy Cochrane Tuesday night, with 92 percent of votes counted. Perdue won with by a 6 percent margin, 52 to 46.

In the races for the U.S. House of Representatives, District 2 Democratic incumbent Bob Etheridge was declared the winner over Republican Doug Hynes. Etheridge received 58 percent of the popular vote. In the District 4 race, Democrat David Price beat Republican Jess Ward 62 to 37 percent.

With 88 percent of the N.C. votes for the \$3.1 billion higher education bonds reported early Wednesday, 73 percent of voters voted in favor of the bonds, compared to 27 percent who did not. Each of the seven other bond referendums on the Wake County ballot for such local improvements as parks and other recreational facilities, streets and housing also passed overwhelmingly Tuesday. Each of the bonds passed by at least 60 percent of the popular vote.

Nationally, the Republican party has apparently maintained its hold on the Senate; going into the elections, Republicans held 54 of the 100 Senate seats.

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crime report



Three cars robbed in Coliseum Deck

Three Honda Accords were broken into in the Coliseum Parking Deck late Friday after-

noon, Nov. 3.

According to the Public Safety police report, all three larcenies occurred by the same method of entry. An unknown subject broke the small rear windows out of each of the vehicles and stole various items, including a total of 50 compact disks, valued at \$750, and 2 compact disk players.

N.C. State graduate student Kevin Maximilian Hardt stated in the police report that he parked his red 1990 Honda Accord coupe around 12:00 p.m. Friday on the east side of the third level of the Coliseum Parking Deck and returned around 5:15 p.m. to find his small rear window broken. He found several CDs from his back seat missing, as well as 2 gas cards from his glove compartment, each valued at approximately \$5.

The owner of the second vehicle parked his car on the north side of the top level of the Coliseum Deck around 1:20 p.m. Friday, and he found his car broken into when he returned at 5:35 p.m. Stolen was an Alpine CD player valued at \$350.

The third vehicle, belonging to NCSU student Amy Nicole Roberts, was parked beside the second vehicle. Roberts reported her Alpine CD player, also valued at \$350, as stolen from the vehicle. There are no leads or suspects in the case.

Vehicle stolen from Pullen Lot

An N.C. State student's parked car was stolen from a university parking lot this past weekend. NCSU freshman Kimberly

Michelle Harris told Public Safety Ptl. J. Gray that she left her father's Oldsmobile parked on the bricks just east of the Pullen parking lot early Saturday morning, Nov. 4. According to the police report, she stated that she forgot to move her vehicle later Saturday morning and discovered it missing around 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 5.

Gray found no signs of broken glass in the area that the vehicle was parked, and no area towing company reported having towed the vehicle.

The Oldsmobile is valued at \$3,000, and there are no leads or suspects in the case.

Thief loots NCSU van outside Poe Hall

A bank bag containing approx-

imately \$550 in cash was stolen from a University Graphics van parked outside of Poe Hall on Friday morning, Nov. 3.

N.C. State employee Patrick Williams told Public Safety Sgt. M.P. Nolin that after he picked up bank bags from the copy center in the Laundry Building, he was told to make an emergency pick-up at Poe Hall.

According to the police report, Williams parked the white Chevrolet van in the loading dock on the east side of Poe Hall and left the driver's side door unlocked and the window open. The bank bags were on the floor between the two front seats.

Williams returned within several minutes to find the bank bags almost completely under the van's front seats, and he discovered that the bag from the Laundry copy center was missing.

The bag contained 25 \$20 bills, three \$10 bills, one five-dollar bill, and four one-dollar bills, a total of \$549. There was no cash missing from any of the other bank bags.

Early morning fire in residence hall

The Raleigh Fire Department responded to an early morning fire at Carroll Residence Hall at approximately 1:17 a.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 31.

According to the Public Safety police report, several unknown subjects set a first floor bulletin board on fire in Carroll Hall. The damage is estimated at \$200, and there was no other property damage.

There are no suspects in the case.

Housing Urban Development program started in the early '90s, each resident signed a waiver acknowledging the potential presence and hazard of the paint and was given a government-approved brochure detailing the dangers of lead contaminants.

Other dorms and classroom facilities on campus do not fall under HUD guidelines, because they do not house children, said Rainer. Environmental Health

will, however, test for lead risks at the request of students or faculty members.

Lead-based paint is common in buildings constructed before 1978. Children who eat lead-contaminated paint flakes or are exposed to concentrated amounts of lead particles in the air could suffer from slowed growth, headaches, hearing problems and damage to the brain and nervous system.

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KING

Continued from Page 1

the replacement of the handrails at the beginning of the next fiscal year.

Younes said residents of E.S. King Village have long known about the possible presence of lead-based paint on the premises. In compliance with the fed-

POLLING

Continued from Page 1

Like all polls in North Carolina, Witherspoon Student Center closed at 7:30 p.m. Those citizens who were still in line at closing time were still allowed to vote.

"If the person was in line at 7:30 p.m., they will be allowed to vote," said an official from the N.C. Republican Party.

No more voters were allowed to stand in line after 7:30 at Witherspoon Student Center.

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TECHNICIAN'S VIEW

Too close for comfort THE RAZOR-THIN EDGE IN THE ELECTION ONLY SERVES TO PROVE THE RAZOR-THIN DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE CANDIDATES.

Election 2000 was without a doubt the closest election since 1960's famous one-vote-per-precinct Kennedy victory over Nixon. But is a close election a good thing?

No one would dare suggest that our newly elected 43rd president received a mandate, an overwhelming call to duty from the voting public. Indeed, almost all exit polls revealed that voters felt significantly slighted in their choices and considerably dissatisfied with their selection; Bush had the character, but not the know-how, whereas Gore had the brains, but not the heart.

Arguably, the closeness of the election reveals that the presidential nominees were, in the end, too interchangeable for their own good. Spending much of the election courtier centrist crossover voters — Reagan Democrats and Clinton Republicans — both Bush and Gore converged to the point where they became copycat candidates running on essentially the same issues: education, Social Security and taxes. Traditionally partisan issues were shared to such a degree that they lost all sense of being partisan at all. All of a sudden, the Republican nominee was pumping his education platform and the Democratic opponent was talking about foreign policy. Both candidates' flip-flop fickleness may have flipped

so many times that they both ended up flopping.

Bush lost almost all of the so-called "swing states," while Gore's Tennessee and Clinton's Arkansas betrayed their democratic roots with votes for Dubya.

In the debates, the only noticeable difference was in the color of the candidates' ties. Even if it had gone the other way on election night, would Jan. 20's inauguration be looking all that different?

Aren't both candidates promoting the same cliched pro-family (as if anyone is anti-family) middle class placebo politics? Didn't both of them agree on the same promise? — Energize Washington in the 21st century and bring America into a new era of innovation, prosperity and honor.

WASP-wapping elections are always frustrating. This year's presidential election, however, was especially so. The overly centrist Republican message is what made the election so close

too close. The election was close not because the fighting was fierce and the get-out-the-vote drives intense. Ultimately, the election was close because it was not an election between Bush and Gore; it was an election for Republican centrism. It's just that more people chose one over the other to represent that centrism.

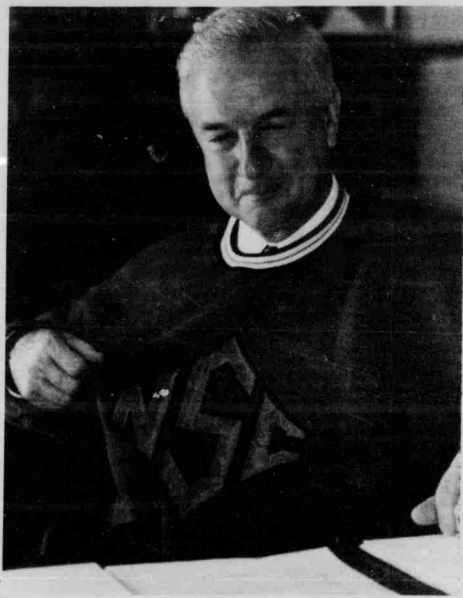
"Our greatest responsibility is to make sure that every North Carolinian gets a good start in life and a good education. For education not only enables us-- it ennobles us."

James B. Hunt Jr.

Governor, North Carolina, 1977-1985, 1992-2000

North Carolina State University, agricultural education graduate, 1959

jim.hunt@technicianfilephoto



Family ties survive growing pains



Rachael Overcash
STAFF COLUMNIST

As the holiday season rolls around and Christmas decorations go up in the stores and on the streets, you begin to get that warm fuzzy "Christmas" feeling inside. The feeling brings you back to your childhood and stirs memories of waiting for Santa Claus or drinking hot apple cider by the fire. However, no matter what your holiday memories may be, one memory that is common for everyone is spending time with the family.

For everyone, the holiday season means spending time with the family. When the holidays approach, some people either dread or can't wait to see their family. I have heard countless horror stories about that dreaded car ride down to grandma's house in Florida, having to listen to your parent's bad soft rock or playing the license plate game. Still, no matter how much people complain about spending time with their family, in the end they really wouldn't have it any other way.

For me, some of my best memories have been with my family. Many of my beliefs, morals and ethics have developed from my family. They are a great support network, which I turn to when I need help. It seems lately, however, that our major bonding time is just on holidays (Christmas, summer vacation, Easter). As hard as I try throughout the year to keep up that "family time bonding" momentum, it sometimes can be difficult.

As we grow older, we begin to develop our own priorities and goals in life, and many times they cause us to pull away from spending time with our family. It is sad to think that often when you enter college or eventually leave home, the people that committed at least 18 years to your life is just shoved aside. The busier we get in our lives and the more responsibilities we take on, the more self-focused we become. Worrying about where you are going to work or going to graduate school, stressing over those end-of-semester tests and papers, or working on a relationship with a significant other all

detract from your family time.

I have always thought it was funny how I talk to my friends and they haven't spoken to their parents in two weeks. They always say, oh, something just came up, and they didn't have time to call. They "didn't have time to call" the people who raised them, provided for them their whole lives and love them unconditionally.

Now, I am not saying that I am the perfect "family-oriented" person, but I do try every week if even for a couple of minutes to call my parents and update them on my life and see how they are doing. I have one close friend who I always admire for placing his family so high on his priority list. Although he may not necessarily see them all the time, every day he thinks about them and makes many of his decisions based on them. He cares so much about bettering his parents' way of life. He wants them to have all the basic comforts of life, see the world and experience the riches of life. It is amazing that while balancing so many other things, he is still able to keep his family at top priority and his main focus. I believe it is important to keep tight relations with your family because when all is said and done, and you have graduated from N.C. State and all those trivial things that you worried about so much in school are over, your family is always there for you.

So now in college is not the time to squander away your relations in your family. It is instead a time to see how to best fit your family in your everyday life. From here on out, we only get busier as members of society. We are going to have less and less time to do all the things we need to do in our lives. Yet, family should be one of the most important things in our life. Family is what takes us through the good and the hard times. It is our families that we need to find a place for in our lives now. So give your mommy or daddy a call tonight, and talk to them and see what they are up to. View them now as a friend, instead of a parental figure.

Rachael would like to say thank you to her family for all the support they give. Also, she would like to note that this column honors the Davis Family. If you have any questions or comments please email her at rloverca@unity.ncsu.edu.



Robert Jallil
STAFF COLUMNIST

I would have written about the election results, but it's Tuesday morning and I don't know what the election results are. Some say the election may allow Gore to pull off a Benjamin Harrison (that is, he might win more electoral votes but lose the popular vote). All will be answered by the time this article is published, but as of right now, no one knows what will happen.

Something everyone should know, and probably does know in the back of their minds, is what it takes to be president. It is safe to assume that the founding fathers intended for this country to be a democracy.

"Democracy" literally means a government ruled by the people. Of course, in a country of our size, it is not practical for every citizen to vote on every piece of legislation. That is why we have a representative democracy, where

American citizens elect officials to serve as their proxy in government.

This is a simple concept, one most people learn in a high-school civics class. Since elected officials are only proxies for the people, it seems that the only qualification to be president should be that he/she is a good representative of the American people (and that he/she

be 35 and a natural born citizen, of course). But the reality, the reality that most Americans are aware of, is that an ordinary American will have a tough time being elected. A simple glance at the presidential field of candidates reveals this fact.

Al Gore was born into a political family. Gore's father was a longtime congressman. As a result, Gore more or less lived at a higher standard of living than the average American. Like the typical politician, Gore attended an Ivy League college and got a law degree. Gore's life has been nothing like the average American's life. While it is conceivable that someone with a "disconnected" background like Gore can empathize with the commoners, the reality is that most politicians don't, and they make poor proxies for the American people.

But some may defend Gore's background, saying that he was the "best of the best," and a president should be more than an ordinary person. They should have superior intellect, gumption and wisdom to lead a whole country in the way an ordinary citizen cannot. But, if such a statement is true, it does little to explain why George W. Bush is in the race.

Dubya did go to Yale, but he stumbled through his classes, performing poorly just as he did in high school. Dubya was also a bit of a drunkard, who only quit drinking when he was 40, and had "youthful indiscretions" like his DUI at the age of 30. Despite his Yale background and his father, Dubya doesn't seem superhuman, doesn't qualify as the "best of the best" (he seems like an

ordinary person).

The relative contradiction between the character and abilities of Gore and Bush suggests that character and ability have nothing to do with why they are viable candidates. The common thread between Gore and Bush, though, is that they both have enormous amounts of cash. More accurately, their status as political insiders allowed them to raise the cash necessary to win an election.

If only political insiders can raise the cash necessary to become president, then presidential candidates are not proxies for the American people; they are proxies for Washington politics. Representing Washington politics is very different from representing the American people. These are things that everyone already knows in the back of their minds.

But even though everyone has a visceral sense about what is wrong with politics, everyone by no means projects a clear opinion about what needs to be done. The low placement of campaign finance reform on issue lists generated by surveys shows this ambiguity. If elections are bought nowadays, as the common thread between Gore and Bush indicates, and most Americans know it and realize it is killing democracy, then Americans have to explicitly do something to change the situation — not bury the solution at the bottom of an issues list. Campaign finance reform has to be an important issue if this nation is to remain a democracy.

Email: RobertJrjallil@unity.ncsu.edu

Pet peeves 3: final judgment



Richard Morgan
STAFF COLUMNIST

In the fall of 1999, a younger, scrappier Richard Morgan began a one-man crusade to fight the opinion monopoly held by politics, relationships and philosophy and rallied for the underdog topics of the sweaty Dining Hall cheesecake, fast food water cups of shame and ESPN's tragic misnomer, NCST. With this column, I officially close that chapter of my opinion writing career with this third and final installment of my pet peeves trilogy:

- Wearing people's glasses. Would you ever kick someone out of their wheelchair and then roll around in it yelling, "Wow! You are really crippled?" No! So why do we pull people's glasses from their faces onto ours and then mock their near-sightedness? I have never understood this.
- Girlfriends/fiancées. Two of my roommates are getting married and the other two have serious girlfriends and a steady stream of phone calls from hopeful ladies. The only phone call I get is the one from Blockbuster: "Hi, Richard. It's about 7 p.m. on Friday and we haven't seen you around yet, so we're wondering if you're OK." There should be a limit on the number of successful relationships someone's friends are allowed to experience at the same

time.

- Gourmet coffee. Just because you add some coffee to a caramel-covered cup of whipped cream and dried vanilla milk, it doesn't make it coffee. And can someone please explain the point of a decaf skim latte. Think about it.
- The homeless. Granted, not all of them are bad, but the other day I saw a homeless guy sitting on the street playing a GameBoy. Here I thought I was lazy and this guy is slacking off from being homeless. Brother, can you spare a dime? I need the new Pokémon cartridge.
- 6x a page. D.H. Hill library used to allow free printing (zero cents), but now it's up to six cents a page. To illustrate the considerable jump, let me illustrate: last year, zero meters were set to crash into Raleigh; suppose this year six meters crashed into downtown. See my point now?
- Talking elevators. The ones in Poe Hall are just tricky. I thought they were all state-of-the-art or something because they were talking. I stood in an elevator for a full minute saying "fifth floor" before someone walked in and pushed the button marked "5." There's just something eerily Hall-like about tricky moving cages that talk to you.
- Answering machine tricks. I called my apartment and actually fell for my own answering machine trick; the message: "Hello?...Hello?...Hello! I can't hear you." It's all fun and games when I'm the one doing the tricking, but I draw the line when I become the butt of the joke.
- No shoes, no service. It wasn't until

I spent the day barefoot that I realized how discriminated against the shoeless. This is just a nation of anti-footites.

• TP laziness. Sure, I'm guilty of it, too: laying the new roll of toilet paper on top of the bare cardboard roll because I'm too lazy to load the new roll into the spool. But I can still be mad at it.

• Cereal dust. When you're trying to tip that last Frost Loop or that final Lucky Charms' marshmallow and then a mountain of sugary sawdust spill into your bowl and turns your milk into sludge (fortified with 12 essential vitamins and nutrients), your breakfast is pretty much ruined.

• Chinese restaurants. Why is it that Ten Ten Buffet's dessert bar bears an uncanny resemblance to the dessert bar at Shoney's? Do the Chinese really top off a hearty dinner of rice and stir-fried chicken with hot fudge sundae topped with gummy bears and crushed oreos?

I don't know how much I've accomplished with the little experience of mine, but if I've led even one person to consider for just one moment how even one of my worthless topics affects them, then I've done my job and I can say with dignity that I am a columnist who isn't afraid of the little topics any more than I'm afraid of the granddaddy issues.

Richard was just too lazy to write a real column. Honestly, he's struggling about next week's column, too. Send him ideas at ncsu_writer@yahoo.com.

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The SUV Debate

Driving success

Rachael Overcash
STAFF COLUMNIST

Sports utility vehicles (SUVs), the new carfrack of today's society. You see them everywhere. It is the car that every 16-year-old wants and it is the car that every yuppie drives. SUVs are the cars for today's busy person because in them they have something that appeals to everyone.

From first hand experience, SUVs are great vehicles. I have always driven an SUV and wouldn't want it any other way. While driving an SUV there is some sense of power; it is high; it is big; and it is commanding. It is a vehicle that dominates the road.

One of the major reasons, however, why I enjoy SUVs is because they are versatile. They can drive over any terrain. Most SUVs have four-wheel drive, which comes in very useful during harsh weather. They are much safer than regular cars when it comes to snow, ice, and heavy rain. Along with being versatile on various terrains, SUVs are handy because they can carry just about anything. They are useful for all sorts of activities. They are fun, moving things or riding with a lot of friends. I know that with my SUV I use its carrying capacity almost every day, in either transporting friends or

things for school. Another useful quality of SUVs is their sheer size, and their size to me is the most appealing feature. Their size is powerful. Being in an SUV on the road you can see over everything. And let me tell you when you are in a stand still on I-40 they sure to come in handy.

Finally, SUVs are so sought after by people because they are stylish. In today's society, SUV are the things to have. Everyone wants them, and over the past couple of years they have been the best selling vehicles. However, when it really comes down to it doesn't matter if you drive an SUV or not because it is your choice. If you want to drive an SUV go for it.

Do not let anyone to tell you that SUVs are bad, that they guzzle gas, that they destroy the environment and roads, or that they are a nuisance on the roads. Drive an SUV because you like them. Drive an SUV because you want to haul things or friends. Drive an SUV because you think that they are stylish. Just drive whatever you want because it is your money and choice.

If you have any questions or comments regarding SUVs please email Rachael at rtoverca@univn.ncsu.edu

Driving us crazy

Justin Parisi
STAFF COLUMNIST

The next time you feel the ground shaking, don't worry; it's not "Jurassic Park 3." It's simply the rumble of the latest two-ton luxury assassin machine, the SUV.

They try to convince you that SUV stands for "Sport Utility Vehicle," but I have my doubts. After all, how many people that drive them are into sport at all? Most of their ideas of sport is seeing how many beers they can down while standing on their heads. My contention is that SUV actually stands for "Suburban Ubiquity Vice."

That's because anyone who's anyone simply must have one. If there were to be a spokesperson for the SUV, it would be that deranged woman from the Old Navy ads. "Duh-ling, Lincoln Navigator's are simply faaabulous."

The scary thing is, the darn things would sell better if she was hawking the tanks. And these things are tanks. Giant. Massive. Unstoppable. Literally. Especially if you happen to be one of the lucky thousands who owned one of those nifty Ford Explorers. You know, with that special "exploding tire" feature. It was all the rage. "Simply faaabulous."

If an out-of-control, careening hunk of heavy metal isn't enough to get your blood pumping, then maybe you need to check your pulse at the gas pumps. Now *that's* an adventure. If ever there was a case for the imminent danger of exhausting our fossil fuels, the SUV could be the poster-child. Not only do they carry upwards of 20 gallons of precious gasoline, but they also get worse gas mileage than an old man after bean night at the home. The minute you leave the parking lot of the local Händes Hugo's, you have to throw it in reverse and refill. "Simply faaabulous."

I can remember when minivans were the things babies sat faster than you could say "Dateline." So fast, in fact, that they forgot to make sure that little issue of "safety" was taken care of. Soon, exposé reports were convincing

us that the once-unassuming kiddie-shuttles were now death cages. Minivan sales began to decline and yuppies everywhere clamored for a new vehicle to get excited about.

Enter the SUV. It was a perfect match, a hybrid vehicle for the hybrid personality. One that could travel off-road or on, but mostly on (only 33 percent of SUV owners and 14 percent of compact SUV drivers actually go off-road). That was the selling point, really. Suburban-barbarians everywhere salivated at the thought of being able to cruise down Main St. or even through their own backyards! Lost was the notion of practicality or even logic. Even the horrific images of the very similar minivans burning in the wind were pushed aside for the shiny new, er, trucks. "Simply faaabulous."

Now, every automaker from Kia to Lexus has their very own model of SUV. And each model "arbors its own special little hazards. The tip-over factor. The exploding tires. The spontaneous gas-tank combustion. The ability to crush smaller cars with a single bound. Heck, you can't even see over the things to know when to stop when they're speeding through the yellow lights just before they turn red.

And where are they speeding off to? Soccer practice. Fraternity mixers. PTA meetings. Cocktail parties. Everywhere you would not find a rugged adventurer (as the marketers would have you believe actually exist and drive these atrocities). Paul Hogan they're not. You can find a Lincoln Navigator or Eddie Bauer edition Ford Explorer, er Explorer anywhere you can smell money. These are the guys who feel like suburban commandos, the girls who feel "safe and protected." Oh, if they only knew. I mean seriously, would you drive a vehicle endorsed by a clothing manufacturer?

So the next time you see one of these assault machines, drive away. Carefully. Don't let them find you. These suburban commandos are on the prowl and will stop at nothing to park their Suburban Ubiquity Vices. "Simply faaabulous."

Justin Parisi at jparisi@univn.ncsu.edu

10 reasons we lose under Bush or Gore

- 1) Defense spending goes up and we continue to spend money to fight unknown enemies.
- 2) People will continue to live without Healthcare (60% live without it now).
- 3) The environment will continue to crumble because we continue to exploit it without looking to conserve it.
- 4) Innocent people will continue to die under a racist, unjust death penalty.
- 5) Washington and the President will continue to sell out to the highest bidder as far as HMO's and big corporations that lobby for their own personal profits.
- 6) The IMF, World Bank and the WTO will continue to exploit third world countries, where 19,000 children die daily from foreign debts owed to us.
- 7) NAFTA will continue to let corporations move to Mexico where they will exploit workers and leave unemployed people here while the corporations make billions of dollars in profit.
- 8) Poverty will continue to not be talked about or discussed (oh yes, I in 5 children in the U.S. live in poverty).
- 9) Prisons will continue to fill up, and the only answer the president will have is to build more prisons, because it's so much easier to do this than to look at the root cause of our social problems.
- 10) We will be arguing these same things in 4 years no matter who is elected.

The presidency is only a position. The true America is governed by the people. The presidency is a bunch of folk. The true way to make change is through a strong united social movement, not a plutocracy.

Plutocracy: government governed by the interests of big business.
Democracy: government governed by the people.

spawns this sort of misnomer is appalling. I hope *Technician* holds the truth on a tighter leash in the future.

Chad Craver
Chair
Broadside Pro-Life Committee

On Nader

There have been several columns recently in *Technician* discussing the Republican-run State Board of Elections, a vote for Nader is a vote for no one. Potential write-in candidates have the responsibility of filing a petition with the State Board of Elections to have these write in votes for them counted. The Green Party wrongly assumed that the petition they filed earlier in the year to have Nader included on the ballot in N.C., which contained more than five times the necessary signatures for this later petition, would suffice. It didn't, which means that the state is able to ignore write in votes for Nader. It's clear that the entrenched political system fears the potential power of the people to make their own choice rather than just pick one of the candidates they choose for us. At the national level, Nader was barred from the debate in Boston despite having a ticket permitting him entrance into the hall. At the local level in North Carolina, the state government has chosen to ignore the choice of a large number of its citizens. In the short term, we can do nothing but choose another candidate, or choose to refrain from voting entirely. In the long term, we must realize that no matter which of the two major parties hold power, the right to elect representatives will be limited to selecting between the lesser of their two evils.

Josh Humphrey
Senior
Animal Science

On ticket policy and 'violation'

There are two issues that I would like to talk about. One is the ticket distribution, the other is about a letter written Nov. 1 about student conduct.

I was disgusted by the associate athletics director's faith in the new method for ticket distribution. For those who missed it, the article described the new policies. Students will not be allowed to line up for tickets until 7 a.m. This also happens to be the time that tickets get handed out. This will not stop students from showing up at 12 a.m. and hanging around.

If Charlie Cobb wanted success he would work more closely with not only the Student Government, but with students' requests also. And if the members of the Student Government are suggesting these policies to Cobb, they must not hang out with students who want tickets to these games, because the policies are just going to anger us. They have already. I'm angry at them, my friends and others are angry.

The new methods for ticket distribution are not fair because there are a lot of students who spend the whole night out in the cold for tickets. Now they really will never be guaranteed good seats because distribution will not be first come, first serve, like it really should be. Remember the students at the FSU distribution who came up from the back of the line to get good tickets while others who had been out there for a lot longer came up short?

In response to *Technician's* Nov. 1 "Blatant violation of student conduct." Would you like to know what the cops were doing during the FSU game? They were hard at work identifying a student who had thrown hot dog buns to hungry (and incredibly bored) fans. It was a relief from the monotony of the game. We had a good laugh and even tried to catch one. Students were drinking all around me.

Don't get me wrong: I'm for a drink now and then-but it is against the law for underage drinkers. There were four cops supervising our section to watch for another hot dog bun thrower. There were alcohol containers lying all over the bleachers we even found a full little bottle of whiskey; the cops some-

how missed them. I was appalled that they didn't bother to find out who had thrown an airplane that had injured an elderly man, yet made a fuss about a harmless guy who was feeding the hungry.

Holly Bezan
Freshman
Wildlife Science

'Sad' about Gore endorsement

I was sad to read in Friday's edition of *Technician* (Nov. 3), that the editorial board had endorsed Vice President Al Gore for president.

I was not as sad about the fact they had endorsed him but rather I was sad at the lack of substance they provided. They were wrong when they quoted former Governor Ann Richards as saying that George W. Bush was "born with a silver foot in his mouth." Governor Richards said that in 1992 about Governor Bush's father.

They claim Governor Bush has not made any major or significant accomplishments serving as Governor of the second largest state in the union for six years. Actually, Governor Bush is a very accomplished governor. If he wasn't, then why would the people of Texas re-elect him with over 70 percent of the vote? He was the first and only Governor to be re-elected to a consecutive term in Texas.

Under Governor Bush's leadership, Texas has been first in the nation in student improvement on test scores, especially for African-Americans and Hispanics. Another accomplishment is that Texas is first in the nation in reducing the amount of releases and disposals of toxics.

I was also disheartened to see that the editorial board favored a career politician for president over an outsider who has a strong record as being a leader that works in a bipartisan manner. They highlight the fact that Gore served eight years even during the period when the impeachment of the President was going on.

I certainly do not think it is an accomplishment for someone to serve as vice president during the impeachment of a president. If anything, it is a dark spot on his career.

The editorial board also says that the vice president's insider status is not a weakness. They claim that Gore knows people in Washington and has built relationships and understands the give-and-take compromise that politics demands. I also know many people in Washington and have also built relationships so does that mean that I am qualified to become the president of the United States?

If being a Washington insider is a such a strength, then why couldn't the president and the vice president get anything done in the seven years they have had in office? They promised reform on medicare, but would not compromise, rejecting the bipartisan plan presented by Senator Breaux of Louisiana and Senator Kerrey of Nebraska, both of whom are Democrats.

They promised to reform education, but have repeatedly rejected bipartisan plans to reform education. Gore only proposed four bills out of three hundred bills he proposed during his sixteen years in Congress as education bills.

Under Clinton-Gore, the National Education Trust, a nonpartisan organization, said, "You might call the 90s the 'dead in the water' decade as far as gap closing is concerned." The federal government has turned a blind eye to the gap and to the students who most need its help by failing to require gap closing as a condition of receipt of federal funds.

I am disheartened that editorial board considers this experience a strength. The editorial board closes by saying not to vote for Gore because he kissed his wife, put Senator Joe Lieberman on the ticket or because he has more experience, but rather vote for him because he deserves it. They claim Bush has no substance in his message. Then where is the substance that they provide in why Al Gore should be the leader of the free world?

The Clinton-Gore Administration had its chance to lead. They didn't.

Matt Adams
Freshman
Communication
N.C. Youth Director
Bush-Cheney 2000

Technician guilty of 'fuzzy journalism'

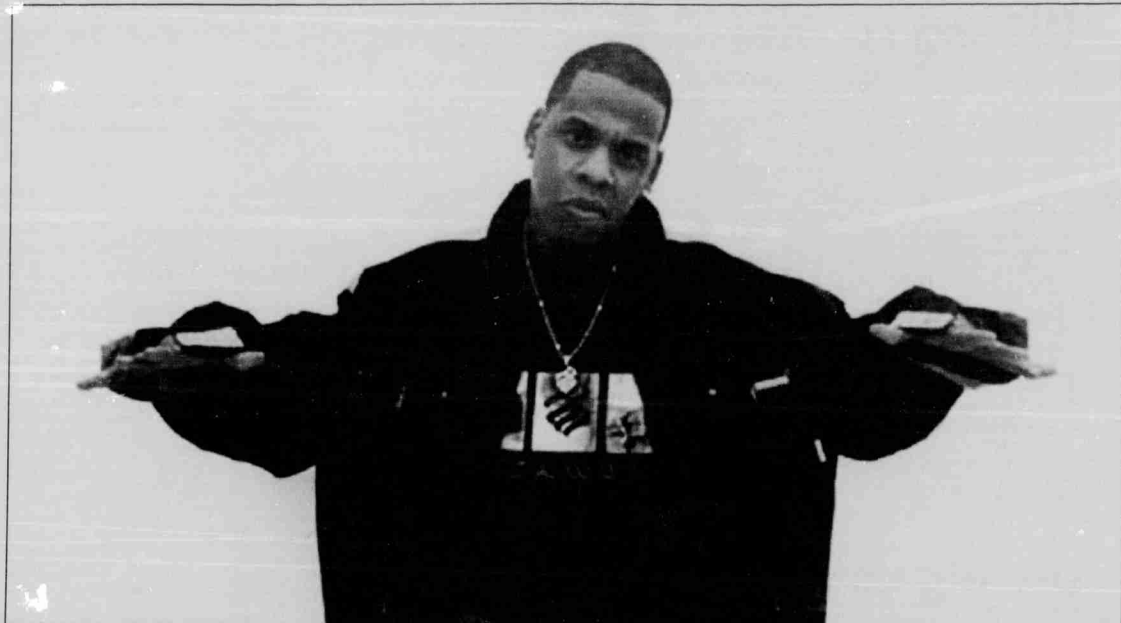
As I peruse Nov. 1's "Student Health has no plans to give out RU-486" two words come to mind: fuzzy journalism. *Technician* has the audacity to give a figure for death-in-childbirth significantly greater (17 percent) than that given by Planned Parenthood. Even given this discrepancy, Planned Parenthood's research (cited from the Alan Guttmacher Institute) is marred by two notable flaws. Maternal deaths are reported as those deaths that occur from the time of the pregnancy anywhere up to 18 months after the pregnancy in some states. A maternal abortion fatality, on the other hand, is defined by the CDC as one that occurs within 42 days of the procedure.

Interestingly, in a nod to one requisite of socialized medicine, the statistical analysis used by Finland's National Research and Development Center for Welfare and Health performed a study in 1997, which examined maternal activity within one year of every Finnish woman's death. According to the study, a woman is four times more likely to die of an abortion than from miscarriage or childbirth.

The intellectual hegemony that

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Jay-Z falls like a star

Dustin Seibert
Michigan Daily

Y'all are gonna hate me after this one.

It seems that as the late 1990's approached, so did low-quality hip-hop music. I don't know whether or not to blame the industry, the fans or both. The extreme emphasis on a marketable beat over good subject material is the reason that fifth dominates the airwaves today. And so it should just be expected that once-great rappers try to keep up with the trend in, sacrificing quality to line their pocket

ets. Unfortunately, Jay-Z is among that list of great lyricists who now talk about, well, nothing important.

The Dynasty should be treated more along the lines of a compilation record than your average Jigga record, as it consists of the whole Roc-a-fella roster: Jay, Memphis Bleek, Beanie Sigel and Amil. Many would argue that this is the problem. That Jay is best on his own. I could not agree more. Memphis Bleek represents well on this album, as he has been with Jay from the beginning and his game has stepped up considerably. His solo track, "Holla," is one of the better cuts on the record. Beanie

Sigel, however, has a greater presence on the record and his flow is inconsistent and unimpressive for the most part. His need to talk about the same things on every single track (save the last, in which he weeps throughout his verse) gets weary by the middle of the record. As for Amil, the four people who bought her solo record will be disappointed to know that she is only on a handful of songs, much to the relief of the listener. She is the essence of boring and monotonous. With the exception of

Bleek, Jigga's camp successfully manages to plague the record that he put his name on the front of.

As for the big man himself, there is no denying his lyrical prowess. His bars burn into the listener's head and his raspy flow is among the most quoted in all of hip-hop. Unfortunately, he seems not to be using his full potential anymore. On Reasonable Doubt (Priority), one of the finest records of all time, he spoke of his street tales with such elo-

quence that you could vividly visualize the crack sales in progress. Every album since has seen him striving for that radio-friendly song, causing him to stray from the skills that we know he still has. His beats on this album are also some of the worst that I have heard from Jay-Z. Failing to hire the skills of Timbaland or DJ Premier was not a very wise move on his part. The sparseness of the production was definitely a fatal blow for this record. Despite all this, the record is not without its bangers. "Streets is Talking" and "1-900-Hustler" show signs of the Jigga that we came to love on the first record.

"This Can't Be Us" works nicely over a melancholy beat with Mr. Scarface contributing his always-depressing lyrics to the song. Perhaps more tracks like these would make for a less radio-friendly record, but it would definitely add to the overall listening value. I know that there are loyal Jay-Z fans that would purchase a record of him farting for 16 tracks, so I'm not even gonna bother suggesting whether or not to buy it. Just recognize that Jay is a falling star ... falling on his own accord.

IMAGE FROM YAHOO.COM



FROM DANTE TO SANDLER



Ryan Hill
Features Editor

From Dante to Woody Allen, hell has been depicted, as well, hellish. Fire and brimstone, demons and Satan have all become benchmarks of the Underworld. Adam Sandler's new film "Little Nicky" has all of these things, only the head-honcho, Satan, is now a loving father. What? Satan a loving father? Where's the evidence? Certainly someone like Adolf Hitler would have to endure more punishment than having a pineapple stuck up his butt, but not in Sandler's hell, where the original Satan is Rodney Dangerfield. Sandler is Nicky, the youngest son of Satan's son (Harvey Keitel), who was hit in the face with a shovel by one of his brothers and now looks goofy and has an

annoying voice. His older brothers, Adrian (Rhys Ifans) and Cassius ("Tiny" Lister, Jr.) have left hell to take over Earth, but the entrance to Hell seals up when they leave. This keeps souls from coming in, thereby sapping dear old dad of his power, and leaving it up to Nicky to save hell. Yes, Adam Sandler must save the devil.

Having never been to earth, Nicky has to get used to the "cold" temperature as well as the inhabitants. His guide here is a talking dog named Beefy, whose voice is about as annoying as Nicky's. Nicky winds up in New York, the new

Little Nicky
★
Director:
Steven Brill
Starring:
Adam Sandler
Harvey Keitel
Patricia Arquette

home of all things evil in cinema today, and begins the search for his brothers. Nicky finds that they are possessing key figures in the city and turning New York into a living hell (some may argue it was this before these two came along).

During his search, Nicky runs into stars like Michael McKean, Dana Carvey, Quentin Tarantino, John Witherspoon, David Spade, Reese Witherspoon and Ozzy Osbourne, but see, they aren't playing themselves, so with the exception of Ozzy, these characters that they're playing just aren't funny. Except for Witherspoon and QT, at

least these cameos are funny. Sandler & Co. has the Washington Redskins of comedy casts, but just like the 'Skins, they can't execute. The script by Sandler, Tim Herlihy and Steven Brill, is the root of all things evil in the movie. Jokes aren't funny, relationships develop over a course of, oh, five minutes (literally) and everyone involved seems like they're in this movie only as a favor to Sandler. It's movies like "Little Nicky" that are the most infuriating of all. They're stupid, awful and will make millions of dollars. The movie may have been salvageable if Sandler didn't talk the way he did. If there is a possibility that his voice may not be annoying, listen to someone talk for 90 minutes like that. Just try it.

Balancing Act

Brenda Barrios
Special to Technician

It's 3 a.m. Like many other N.C. State students, Shaonna Ferrarini is spending the wee hours of the morning working on a homework assignment. She has to finish it and then get ready for class. Then she has to drop her two kids off at daycare.

Ferrarini, 28, is one of a group of single mothers who attend N.C. State. Every day she juggles the often-conflicting demands of being a full-time student and a full-time mom. "If you want something bad enough, you can get it," she said. "You'll find a way." Ferrarini became a single mother in July 1997, when she and her husband separated due to legal trouble on her husband's part. She already had a daughter, Haley, 4, but during the off-and-on separation, she became pregnant with her son Aaron, 2. She was only a sophomore. Her mother moved in with her to help take care of Ferrarini's children. She works full time to pay the bills, while Ferrarini is in school. Ferrarini says becoming a single mother was hard for her. "Because I was raised by a single mother, I knew how difficult it was," she said. At the time, she struggled with her feelings of inadequacy. "I was sad and disappointed, and I was angry at myself and my husband," said Ferrarini. "I saw it as self-failure. I thought, 'What did I do wrong?'" Krystal Vandemark was in the same position during her freshman year.



See MOTHER, Page 7

MOTHER

Continued from Page 6

"You're scared," she agreed. "You feel insecure about yourself."

Vandemark, 21, had just begun her college career at a community college near her home. She planned to transfer to State after her first year, but when she got pregnant with her daughter, Lydia, now 2, Vandemark decided to get an associate degree and transfer a year later at the start of her junior year. She moved in with her sister's family. Vandemark and the baby's father remained in contact, and last June they decided to get married.

Vandemark says that along with her insecurities, she felt a sense of discouragement from other people.

"People told me I'd never make it," Vandemark remembers. "They said there was no way I could go to school."

Michelle Feijo recalls the same reaction but from her own husband.

"He didn't understand why I wanted to go," Feijo, 29, said. "I think he found the idea of me going to be threatening."

Feijo married at age 16, shortly after she had given birth to her son Lee, now 14. She had dropped out of high school, but had gone back to school to get her GED. Then she had her second child, Scanna, 6. She began working in a daycare, but found that she wasn't happy with her life. Finally, Feijo decided to go to college, but her husband discouraged her from getting a degree. His lack of support and developing drug and alcohol problems caused her to divorce him and encouraged her to continue with her education.

Feijo says the main challenge she deals with as a single mother is balancing the responsibility

as a mother with the demands of a student.

"Every day you have to choose between your child and school," Feijo declared. "Every day I don't read something I'm supposed to or I don't go to the library to work on a project that I should be working on."

Vandemark echoes Feijo's sentiments. "As a single mom, I had to realize that everything couldn't get done, so I did what I could."

Many single mothers tend to depend on their family of origin for childcare, according to Dr. Barbara Risman, a N.C. State professor of sociology. However, statistics from Single Parent Central, an on-line resource for single parents, shows that most single moms end up relying on daycare. The same source reveals that full-time daycare usually costs as much as college tuition at a public university.

Although Feijo now uses after-school care now, when she began school she was forced to use full-time daycare, which cost her \$650 a month. Because she only worked ten hours a week instead of twenty, she didn't qualify for Smart Start, a state program that pays a portion of daycare costs. In order to meet Smart Start's requirements, she would have had to quit school and get a full-time job. Rather than give up her education, Feijo wrote a storm of letters to the governor's office petitioning the program to recognize her academic career as a job and to allow her to stay in school. Finally, she was granted a waiver and allowed to participate in the program.

Ferrari spends even more on childcare. She pays \$725 a week for her two kids to spend two days in daycare.

"It would be great if the university had information about daycare options packaged," Ferrari said. "But they pretty much didn't do anything."

Currently, N.C. State offers no childcare facilities or programs. Although there is a daycare called Campus Childcare, this facility is not affiliated with State.

"I wrote a letter my first semester here about daycare," Feijo stated. "But nothing has been done yet."

Dr. Risman believes that single mothers' issues, such as daycare, are ignored.

"Working parents' issues and women's issues are ignored because of a lack of equity towards both groups," Risman declared. "Single mothers are at the intersection of these groups."

Although she complains of the university's lack of attention to these issues, she says that the faculty have been understanding.

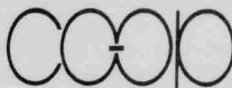
"I think professors try to be generous and fair and at the same time meet the goals of the class," said Dr. T.L. Taylor, N.C. State professor of Communication. "Single moms not doing the work due to childcare difficulties isn't the same as them just not doing the work."

Although Feijo says that a few of her instructors have been unsympathetic, she maintained that the CHASS faculty and the professors from the women's studies department have been supportive of her endeavors.

"I wouldn't have stayed in school if not for the women in those departments," Feijo claimed.

Despite the difficulties they face in their dual role of mother and student, Vandemark, Ferrari and Feijo remain optimistic about their educational pursuits. Each plans on attending graduate school after graduation.

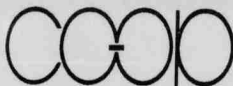
"Just because you're going to have a baby, it doesn't make you ineligible to do certain things," Vandemark asserted. "I can do whatever I set my mind to. I can make it work."



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DISTRICT

Continued from Page 10

William and Mary and James Madison should provide the main competition out of the other conferences. James Madison defeated William and Mary at their conference championships with both teams posting very low scores of 30 and 36. Neither team is ranked nationally.

"We put four in the top 10 at ACC's, and Amy Beykirch's workouts have been really good lately, so we feel pretty good heading into districts," said assistant coach Laurie Henes. "If we run like we should and as well as we did at ACC's, then the race should unfold like the conference race did, and we shouldn't have too much to worry about then."

Beykirch, a senior, marked her return to the front of State's team at the ACC Championships with a fifth-place finish on the team and a 13th-place finish overall. Her return to the front should help make up for the loss of Lindsey Rogers. Last year's 10,000-meter conference champion who will miss this race with a

knock injury.

Christy Nichols, Katie Sabino, Beth Fonner and Beth Kraft all recorded top 10 finishes at the conference finals and, with the presence of Beykirch, should lead the team again in the district race. Diana Henderson will also run for the Wolfpack. The final decision on who State's seventh runner will be has not been made yet.

"Melinda Dubose and Erin Swain are in contention for the final position on the team," said Henes.

Like the men's race, the women will move up to a longer distance for their final two races of the season. The women add over a half of a mile to bring their final racing distance up to six kilometers, or 3.75 miles.

"I don't think that moving up to the 6,000 will hurt any of our girls," said Henes. "In fact, it may even help out some of our runners."

"I think we have a great shot at winning the district title," added front-runner Beth Fonner. "I believe this team is capable of a top seven finish nationally, so we should fare very well on Saturday. This is the best team I've been a part of since I've been here, so we should run well at Furman."

FONNER

Continued from Page 10

making every training run harder and faster should equate to faster race times," said Fonner. "So I started running all of my runs faster and doing all of my workouts with Lindsey Rogers, who really pushed me. My times really improved during the track season, and I kept up the intensity throughout the summer."

At the end of the 2000 track season, Fonner placed fifth in the 10,000-meter finals. Teammate Lindsey Rogers won the race.

"Certainly fifth is not a bad finish at all," said Henes. "But I think she should have finished higher than that. She went out too fast and found it

hard to hold on for the end of the race. After that she went home and really worked over the summer, and it has paid off so far this season."

Fonner is staying optimistic about her personal goals and her team's goals nearing the end of this cross country season.

"I believe this team is capable of a top seven finish nationally, so we should fare very well at districts this Saturday," Fonner said. "Personally, I want to finish as an All-American at the NCAA championships, but I will be happy just helping the team to a good finish. I think I can definitely finish in the top 50, but you never can tell where you are in the middle of a race like that, so all I can really hope for is to run my best race and pass as many people as possible."

HOBGOOD

Continued from Page 10

two guard, Miles, although extremely thin, poses matchup problems to many due to his abnormally tall height for the position.

While Miles possesses unearthly athleticism, excellent ball-handling abilities and a knack to create shots for others, he also possesses something that none of his previous

counterparts that entered the league right out of high school did — a burning desire to succeed on the defensive end of the floor.

Therefore, if you're in search of the league's best player, best rookie, best duo and best team, look no further than the West Coast. For that matter, look no further than the City of Angels.

David Hobgood can be reached at 315-2411 or dhobgood@unr.ncsu.edu.

WolfpackNotes

Women's golf is in 11th place at Pine Needles

Wolfpack ranked in preseason top 25

N.C. State's women's golf team is in 11th place at the Pine Needles Intercollegiate in Southern Pines, N.C. The Wolfpack shot a 318 in the second round for a two-day total of 633. Alabama and South Florida are currently tied for the lead with a 36-hole total of 595.

Chloe Ritson led NC State in the second round with a 76. Sarah Davis of Raleigh fired a 79, and Malin Claesson carded a 79. Claesson and Ritson are tied for 21st in the individual standings.

Rachael Lester of Kentucky, Laura Torres of Campbell and Fany Schaeffer of South Florida are all tied for the lead with a two-day total of two-over-par 144. The tournament will conclude on Nov. 8 with a final 18-hole round.

The Associated Press and ESPN released preseason national women's basketball rankings Tuesday and N.C. State placed among the top 25 teams in each poll.

One of four Atlantic Coast Conference teams in either poll, State is No. 18 in the ESPN/Coaches poll while Duke is No. 4, Virginia is No. 15 and North Carolina is No. 25.

In the AP poll, State is No. 19 while Duke is No. 5, Virginia is No. 15 and UNC is No. 22.

Claesson also received votes in the AP poll and ESPN poll, the Tigers earned 66 points from ESPN voters, short of the 121 UNC collected and 36 in the AP poll, short of Santa Barbara's 85.

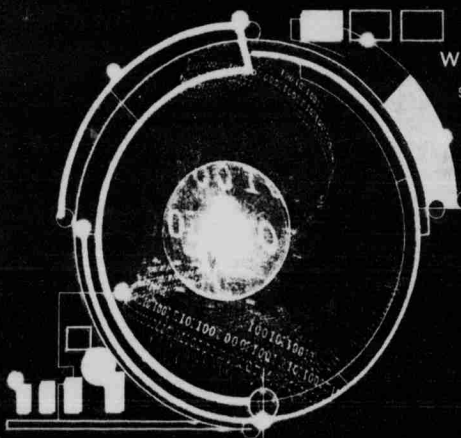
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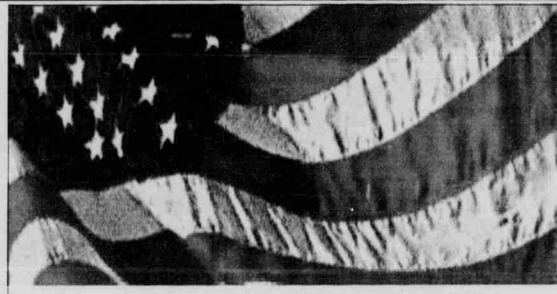
- ACROSS**
- 1 Rocks on hilltop
 - 4 View
 - 9 Piece
 - 12 16th president (abbr.)
 - 13 Hue
 - 14 High card
 - 15 Place incorrectly
 - 17 Declared holy
 - 19 Over (poetic)
 - 21 Sharp taste
 - 23 Exist
 - 24 Accumulation of body fluids
 - 27 Scrap of food
 - 28 Veil
 - 30 Or God of War
 - 31 Morning (abbr.)
 - 32 Wilderness
 - 34 Seventh musical note
 - 35 Cries
 - 37 Slope downward
 - 38 Irate
 - 39 Entertain
 - 41 Direction (abbr.)
 - 42 Very strong wind
 - 43 Growing older
 - 45 Stop
 - 46 N. Amer. Indian tribe
 - 48 Sell
 - 51 Hawaiian food
 - 52 German (siang)
 - 54 Put
 - 55 Saturated hydrocarbon (suf.)
 - 56 Glide along
 - 57 Before (poetic)
- DOWN**
- 1 Scottish cap
 - 2 Wide Japanese sash
 - 3 Place for relaxation
 - 4 Blenheim
 - 5 Sly
 - 6 Elevated railroad
 - 7 Part of face
 - 8 Rub out
 - 9 Sell
 - 10 Frozen water
 - 11 Spread grass for drying
 - 12 Frigate
 - 16 Lease
 - 18 Aromatic, reddish wood
 - 20 Perusing
 - 21 Warm thoroughly
 - 22 Protective body covering
 - 23 Wagers
 - 25 Iron
 - 26 To one side
 - 28 12th Greek letter
 - 29 Distinct pitch
 - 32 Sioux tribe
 - 33 All right
 - 36 Small brimless cap
 - 38 Sleeveless coat
 - 40 Clock clickings
 - 42 Fish
 - 44 Informer (Brit. slang)
 - 45 Take away, subtract
 - 46 Mineral spring
 - 47 Age; eternity
 - 48 Conjunction
 - 49 Hearing organ
 - 50 Cereal grass
 - 53 Community college degree (abbr.)

ANSWERS

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Wolfpack heads to District Championships



◆ The cross country teams will take on the best in the Southeast this weekend at the NCAA District Championships at Furman University.

Todd Lion
Staff Writer

After seeing its six-year conference winning streak come to an end two weeks ago, N.C. State's men's cross country team is looking for revenge against the Blue Devils of Duke.

Duke defeated State Oct. 28 at the ACC Championships by a score of 39-49. The Wolfpack will get its chance at payback this weekend at the Southeast District Championships in Greenville, S.C., on the campus of Furman University.

"We had some guys run slower than they usually do at ACCs," said runner Devin Swann. "We're pretty angry that Duke beat us there, and we are ready to get revenge against them this weekend."

Heading into this weekend's meet, State is looking at Duke and William and Mary as its main competition. Virginia, which finished a close five points behind the Pack at the ACC Championships, should also provide tough competition.

"If we make it into the top two positions at Districts then we automatically go to Nationals," said head coach Rollie Geiger. "Even if we place third, we will probably end up making it to the NCAA finals due to at-large bids, but we don't want to be in that position. We want to win it, but Duke, William and Mary, James Madison and Virginia could all threaten us for that."

At the ACC Championships, State, Duke and Virginia all placed three runners in the top 10, so the final scores could come down to the fourth and fifth runners. State also took the 11th individual position at the conference championships.

Devin Swann, who ran

fourth for State two weeks ago, said his finish at the conference championships improved his confidence and will help his race at Furman.

"ACCs really boosted my confidence going into the district championships," Swann said. "I've never finished that high in the team before, and I really feel like I can go out there with the top guys again and run with the lead pack."

At the district championships, each team is only allowed to run seven runners, which creates a tough decision for Geiger. He currently has not decided on the seventh runner to back up his front six of Swann, Ryan Woods, Andy Smith, Dean Bowker, David Patterson and Chad Pearson.

The men will also have to change their race strategies to compete in a 10-kilometer race, as opposed to the eight kilometers they run during the regular season. The post-season races add 1.25 miles to the race, taking the total distance up to 6.25 miles.

Geiger still sees some problems his team will have to work on, and the extra distance will only make it more difficult.

"We have too much of a gap between our first and fifth runners," Geiger said. "We have to cut the spread down to what it was earlier in the season. It really doesn't matter who those guys are; we just need someone to step up in the fifth position."

Duke is currently ranked 11th in the nation, while State and William and Mary hold the 16th and 21st positions.

State's 14th-ranked women's team will face similar competition in its race for the district championship. ACC runner-up and chief rival North Carolina is ranked 23rd. State defeated UNC by nine points at the ACC Championships. Wake Forest, Duke and Virginia, who finished a distant third, fourth and fifth at the conference championships, have previously been ranked in the top 25 in the nation.

See DISTRICT, Page 9

Fonner running in front for Pack

◆ Junior Beth Fonner has proven that she is one of the best runners in the ACC with a successful cross country season.

Todd Lion
Staff Writer

To the average fan of N.C. State cross country, it would appear that junior Beth Fonner has just exploded onto the scene for the 2000 cross country season.

This season may be the first time Fonner has seen the finish line before anyone else, but her freshman and sophomore years were certainly not unsuccessful. And they helped prepare her for running in the front for the Pack this year.

Fonner's most recent accomplishment came at the ACC Championships two weeks ago. She finished eighth there with a time of 18:51 on the 5,140-meter course. Her finish there did not come easily, according to assistant coach Laurie Henes.

"Beth's knee had been bothering her all week, so she took plenty of pain medication the day before the race," Henes said. "Needless to say, her knee didn't hurt at all, but her stomach was killing her. Before the

race she didn't even think she would be able to run at all. She never really got into the race mentally, but her fitness level is so great right now that she was able to pull off that finish without even wanting to run at all."

Fonner's first race of the 2000 season ended in an impressive victory that was a surprise to everyone, including herself. At the Wolfpack Invitational, the season opener for the State cross country teams, she finished first in 18 minutes and 40 seconds. The course was a long 5,224 meters.

"That race was a real surprise to me," Fonner said. "At the beginning of any season you never really know what kind of shape you are in, so I didn't know what to expect heading into that meet. When we converted the time to a true five-kilometer time, I found that I really ran under 18 minutes, which was the first time I had ever done that, and doing it in the first meet of the year was a shock to me."

Henes was pleased with the result of Fonner's first race, but it was less of a surprise to her than it was for Fonner herself.

"I could tell the minute she came back to school how good of shape she was in," said Henes. "Her first workout was great, and I knew we

could count on her this season."

Fonner had been a consistent performer for the Pack in her previous two years with the Pack, but it was not until last spring when she started her strides toward the front of the team.

As a freshman, Beth Fonner ran in the eighth position for the team and did not redshirt the season. Unfortunately, she did not make the top seven, who run at the district and national finals.

"We would love to have that year of eligibility back," Henes said. "But then again, using that eligibility turned out to motivate Beth even more. In the long run, then, not redshirting her might have actually helped us out more than anything."

Fonner continued improving through her freshman year, which she capped off with a fifth place finish in the ACC track finals in the 5,000-meter race.

As a sophomore, Fonner realized her goal of running in the top seven for State. She competed in the district and national finals that year, where she finished 24th and 160th.

Later that year was when she started her latest ascent toward the front of the team.

"That spring I finally realized that

See FONNER, Page 9



Beth Fonner runs in the ACCs on Oct. 28.

basketball

I love this game

Well, it's that time of year again. There are not many times during the year that excite me as much as the beginning of basketball season. With the start of the NBA season underway, here are a few ideas about what will take place over the next eight months and 2,400 and some odd games.



David Hobgood
While everyone

seems to be jumping on the Portland Trail Blazers' bandwagon as the team to beat, not only will the Blazers not win the title, they won't even make it to the Western Conference Finals. Everyone seems to forget that Tim Duncan re-signed with San Antonio in the off-season.

The addition of the much-needed, athletic Derek Anderson at the two guard should make the Spurs ready to return to the glory of their 1998-99 championship season. However, the Lakers will beat them in a seven-game epic series to get to the Finals.

The Eastern Conference, on the other hand, is much harder to predict, especially now that Miami Heat center Alonzo Mourning is out for the season. The Eastern Conference Finals will feature a match-up of three of the top players in the NBA — Allen Iverson, Grant Hill and Tracy McGrady. For those who don't know, that would mean a Philadelphia 76er-Orlando Magic match-up.

In this case, I would have to say "The Answer" Allen Iverson is unstoppable, but two stars are better than one, as the boys from the Magic Kingdom will provide commissioner David Stern with two major markets in the Finals for the first time in years.

And while McGrady and Hill are an awesome tandem, they will not be enough to stop the already legendary tandem of Shaquille O'Neal (the best player in the game) and Kobe Bryant (the future best player in the game, sorry Vince).

2. Shaquille O'Neal will win the MVP again.

The self-proclaimed "Big Aristotle" will be at least as dominant as he was last year and snatch the league's top individual honor for the second year in a row.

After winning another NBA title, scoring title and MVP at the age of 28, O'Neal will continue to draw closer to the elite class of Will Chamberlain, Bill Russell and Kareem Abdul-Jabbar as the greatest big men ever.

His closest competitors for the honor will be Duncan (the undisputed second-best player in the game), Minnesota Timberwolf Kevin Garnett (possibly the most versatile player in the league) and Seattle Supersonics point guard, Gary Payton (one of the greatest defenders in league history).

3. Darius Miles will win the Rookie of the Year.

After becoming the highest drafted player ever out of high school (No. 3 overall by the L.A. Clippers), this 19-year-old East St. Louis product has been nothing short of breathtaking. He has gained the highest praise from some of the game's greats, as Jerry West and Michael Jordan said he would "be an absolute superstar."

At 6'9" and starting at the

See HOBGOOD, Page 9

Ag race too close to call

◆ Late last night, there was still no clear-cut winner in the race for James Graham's replacement as Agriculture Commissioner.

Jimmy Ryals and Sara Lane
Correspondents

After 36 years on the job, the "Sodfather," Agriculture Commissioner James Graham, will turn over his cowboy boots after this year's election, but last night it was unclear who would take his place.

The race for North Carolina Agriculture Commissioner was too close to call at press time last night, as Democrat Meg Scott Phipps and Republican Steve Troxler were nearly dead-even with approximately 80 percent of precincts reported.

Throughout the weeks entering the election, Phipps led Troxler in the polls by a large

margin, with some polls estimating Phipps to lead as much as a 10 percent lead. Much of this lead was attributed to Phipps' outpacing Troxler on campaigning by a factor of two to one.

Troxler hoped that Texas Gov. George W. Bush's popularity in the presidential race in North Carolina would bring him votes.

Born of a line that includes former North Carolina governors Kerr Scott and Bob Scott, Meg Scott Phipps was the Democratic candidate to replace Graham. A 44-year-old lawyer and part-time farmer, Phipps has only made one other run for elected public office, a 1992 campaign for the N.C. House of Representatives. She has said that she will make few changes to the department if elected.

Phipps does, however, have some new projects in mind. Among them are an 18-month moratorium on farm foreclosure

and the creation of farm credit crisis management teams to help farmers deal with their creditors.

Phipps also plans to begin a Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services hotline for consumers' questions and comments.

A native of Haw River, Phipps received her bachelor's degree from Wake Forest University and attended law school at Campbell University and the University of Arkansas. She also holds a master's degree in agricultural law.

Troxler has owned and operated Troxler Farms in Browns Summit for 25 years since graduating from N.C. State with a bachelor's degree in conservation in 1974. He has worked extensively with tobacco action groups, serving on the boards of directors for both the North Carolina Tobacco Settlement Phase II Entity and the Tobacco Growers Association of North Carolina.

Troxler also served in elected office as the supervisor of the Guilford County Soil and Water Conservation District.

Troxler has said his first priority as commissioner would be to help farmers become financially viable.

"We are in danger of losing our next generation of farmers because there is no incentive to farm," Troxler said. "We must return profitability to the farms of our state."

The race will be decided after all precincts have reported and provisional votes have been counted.

Troxler and Phipps have both stated a belief that the government should offer aid to tobacco farmers and quota owners who wish to get out of the business.

The two also agree that more cost-effective methods of hog waste management should be found before the government mandates a phase-out of hog waste lagoons.

Ballots spill into kitchen

◆ Popularity of "no excuse" absentee and mail-in ballots floods BOE equipment and offices.

Nancy Hight and Yona Owens
Correspondents

Douglas Holbrook, secretary of the Wake County Board of Elections, spent most of his second major Election Day in an apartment-size kitchen.

Holbrook, a well-dressed young man who graduated from N.C. State in 1996, was one of four people manually feeding absentee ballots into two Optech H1P Eagle tabulation machines at the election board's main office and conference room on South Salisbury Street.

The convenience of "no excuse" absentee voting and the popularity of the mail-in ballot for voters has been a major headache for Board of Election officials this year. The board received at least 10,000 more absentee ballots than had been expected, along with the expected percentage of problem ballots.

The ballot feeding started at 2 p.m. Tuesday, when Holbrook and at least four others, including the Election Board's chair, Connie Mitchell, started scanning between 7,500 to 8,000 mail-in ballots received — 1,500 to 2,000 more than previous elections.

The conference room used for setting up these machines is small and already occupied with the conference table and chairs. The machine Holbrook was using — about the size of a commercial floor cleaner — had to be placed in the small kitchen that adjoined the conference room. It was warm, and he had to stand in front of the machines to feed the ballots.

The second machine was placed in the corner of the conference room at the end of a long table where Tom Steed, the Republican member of the Board of Elections, had fed 1,880 ballots in by 7:15 p.m. Holbrook's machine read 2,777.

He was cooking.

"It gives new meaning to the term 'slaving away in the kitchen' over a hot tabulator machine," Holbrook said, grinning. "This is the glamour that goes with being a civic leader."

As Holbrook fed ballots into the scanner, they were separated into three different bins inside its belly. One bin housed the ballots that are counted without a problem. One bin housed the ballots with errors in votes that have to be manually counted the next day.

The third bin housed what Mitchell calls "sinner bins and out stacks." These have to be counted manually because they were badly marked or stained. One looked like someone had "spilt their breakfast on it," Mitchell said, and the machine could not read them.

There are 52 different ballot styles used this year in Wake County; the previous year's record was 31. Approximately 29,000 total absentee ballots and mail-in ballots were received — Holbrook, Mitchell and Steed were finishing up the last of the mail-in ballots by the time the other percent tallies were starting to come in at 7:30 p.m. The Wake County Board of Elections won't start counting ballots from the "sinner bins and out stacks" until Wednesday at 3 p.m. In close elections, these votes could sway the outcome.

Holbrook's machine was also used to scan the mail-ins since October during the submission period for the "no excuse absentee ballots."

They were turned off every night so the total count within the machines would not be tallied early. Once all of the ballots were scanned, the stored tallies within the electronic belly of the scanner were burped out onto the main electronic vote board adding to the election return display.

Holbrook, like all Board of Election officials, carefully handled each ballot. He did have time to notice some write-in votes.

Yasmine Bleeth for president.

E-election opportunities

◆ Wake County is slowly moving towards technological improvements for area voters.

Mindy Stroupe and Jill Koethke
Correspondents

N.C. State students have the luxury of registering for their classes online. Wouldn't it be nice if voting were that efficient?

Wake County is slowly moving toward technological improvements for area voters. Unfortunately, the transformation has only just begun.

During this year's election, Wake County has introduced direct-record voting machines. Sandy Shanahan, training and education coordinator for the North Carolina Board of Elections, described the how the new voting machines operate.

"When voters use the new direct-record voting machines, they receive a cassette which they plug into the machine," Shanahan said. "Voters then select their can-

didate from an electronic ballot using a special stylus pen."

Wake County only owns three of these machines, which were used for one-stop absentee voting.

The new computer technology allows for easier sorting of voter information. The Board of Elections can evaluate voting habits by political party, gender and many other specific demographics.

These machines have the potential to make the entire process more organized and efficient. Currently, only 19 counties in North Carolina employ the use of the direct-record voting machines. The voting process is not yet paperless, because Wake County cannot afford to replace the old machines with the new electronic ones.

Lever machines were determined to be unreliable "because they were no longer being manufactured and because voters tended to express their political angst by taking it out on the voting machine," according to Shanahan.

Every precinct in Wake County uses optical-scan machines that mechanically tally paper ballots. The optical-scan method replaced lever voting machines nine years ago.

Shawn Kelly, an N.C. State senior, feels that the current optical-scan machines compromise his privacy.

"I miss the more traditional voting booths," Kelly said. "It seemed more like voting then, now it feels like a test. Plus I felt like people could see who I was voting for."

Although the new direct-record machines make voting organization more efficient, they do not tally the votes much faster than the optical-scan machines.

The speed with which the votes are counted is not extremely important since the Board of Elections cannot legally begin tallying the votes until the polls close at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday. Optical-scan machines only require 15 minutes to send voting results to the Board of Elections via modem.

Polls results difficult to call

◆ Election results remained difficult to call even for those who study political science.

Laura Estepe
Correspondent

In an election season of unusually close races, results remained difficult to call even for those who study political science for a living. Michael Cobb, a political science instructor at NC State, predicted that the candidate who won Pennsylvania and Florida would take the election.

Dr. Clyde Frazier said Bush would win North Carolina, but declined to make a further prediction. Both agreed Easley would probably win governor.

"North Carolina is a fairly balanced state, in terms of Democrats and Republicans," said Frazier, which explains the close presidential and gubernatorial races.

Cobb felt that traditionally Gore should have an advantage over Bush, largely because of the number of undecided voters, who generally support the incumbent candidate. However, he said that Gore had not really taken advantage of this opportunity, in his efforts to separate himself from the Clinton administration. He also faulted Gore for not linking the strong economy with his administration.

Overall, Cobb felt Bush's campaign team had a better understanding of the media than Gore's and used it more to their advantage. Both candidates for president avoided issues like abortion and race that have traditionally been very important. Bush, especially, tried to stay away from these issues because they are tricky issues that split his party.

Frazier felt that the candidates passed up many golden opportunities to emphasize their party affiliations and traditions. "I feel that the major parties and what they stand for are extremely important, almost to the point that individuals should vote for parties rather than specific candidates," said Frazier.

Frazier did not hold out much hope for Nader in his ability to earn 5 percent of the popular vote. This became Nader's goal in continuing the race, in order to receive federal funding for his Green Party in the next election.

"Typically as the election draws closer, support for third parties tends to evaporate as voters realize that their candidate will not win," said Cobb.

Voters get the impression that if they want their vote to count, they had better choose from the other major-party candidates. Most of Nader's support was predicted to transfer to Gore's camp. To aid this transition, Gore campaigned almost as



Steven DeCillis, assistant District Attorney in the 9th District, roots for Democratic gubernatorial candidate Mike Easley. PHOTO BY JAMES CULLE

much against Nader as he did against George Bush.

A marked difference in the gubernatorial race this year was the increased amount of televi-

sion campaigning, mainly in the form of commercials.

"Increasingly that's just the way politics happen these days," said Frazier.

Easley is uncomfortable with campaigning and hasn't felt the need to campaign especially hard since he's been leading in the polls for the majority of the

race. Vinroot's campaign manager prefers specific targeted messages to uncontrollable public appearances, said Cobb.

This special section was brought to you by the journalism students of Rod Cockshutt, Bob Kochersberger, Harlen Makemson and Cat Warren. In addition to the reporters, students also served as copy editors. Many thanks to Bennett Acuff, Kelly Blaggie, Lauren Deere, Denise Dixon, Nicole Hargrove, Heather McGowan, Julie Caruso, Leacy Smith and Will Zweigart.

ELECTION

Student election response

◆ Election dynamics kept some N.C. State students out of the voting booth Tuesday

Suzanne Knighton
Correspondent

Ralph Nader's absence from the North Carolina's ballot — combined with a perception that the two leading candidates are too similar — kept some N.C. State students out of the voting booth Tuesday.

Noah Joyner, an employee of Record Exchange on Hillsborough Street, wrote in Nader on the ballot as a protest against Gore and Bush. "I wouldn't vote for either of them. I protested because it sends a message to all the Democrats that they are too

much involved corporately." Joyner rubbed his hands through his hair with a sigh. "They are not representing our views and protecting us as consumers."

Tom Caswell was tutoring Robert Wren in Mitch's Tavern. Both of them are computer science majors. Neither of them voted. "If either one of them got elected and things went bad, I didn't want to feel responsible," Caswell said. "I don't trust either one of them. They both are too much party candidates."

Holding his computer programming book and smoking a cigarette, Wren shared Caswell's pessimism. "I didn't care. All I have heard from either one of them is hating the other. If Nader had been the Democratic candidate, and

there had been more publicity for him, I would have cared." Taking a drag from his cigarette, Wren griped, "I have more to worry about — like this scheduling program."

Not everyone was frustrated with the lack of support for Nader. "I think Bush is the better candidate," said Robert Middleton, a sophomore in political science. "However, my European friends prefer Gore. They feel that Bush is not as educated as Gore on politics in D.C."

Brock Winstead, a sophomore in film, felt there were no clear-cut lines between the two major candidates. "People didn't really learn about the differences in the candidates. The fact that it was so close helped the voter turnout."

The view from bars, restaurants

◆ NCSU and UNC-CH students discuss taxes and gun control on Election Night.

Chad Flowers
Correspondent

The year's elections, the closest in recent memory, have people everywhere abuzz about the happenings. Whether they are arguing about who the better candidate is, who voted and who didn't, or even the length of the lines at some precincts, almost everyone in Raleigh is talking about the elections.

Although many restaurants and bars in Raleigh are filled with many of the bureaucrats of Wake County, some students were visiting these hangouts on election night as well.

When asked about his thoughts on politics and this year's election, N.C. State senior Clay Torrance, a patron of Ri-Ra Irish Pub in downtown Raleigh, said, "There are two things that are certain, death and taxes. We have no control over death, but we do over taxes, or do we?" "Also, say I own a gun. I have all these laws and regulations

that I have to abide by. Then on the other hand, there's been no significant decrease in the number of criminals carrying a gun. Should I be penalized for being an upstanding citizen wanting to own a gun? Vote for the Republicans. The less restrictions on common citizens, whether it be gun control or anything else the government thinks they can regulate, the better."

Although Torrance focuses on the issues, many others were concerned with the actual voting process. Katie Harper, a junior at NCSU, dining at Miami Subs on Western Boulevard, was concerned specifically about the voting on campus.

"I'm against the fact that a lot of the students that registered to vote through student government had to use provisional ballots," said Harper. Then they ran out of provisional ballots on campus, so many students didn't even get to vote, although they were registered."

Concerned with the integrity of voters, sisters Kristina and Shanna Fox, patrons of Wendy's on Western Boulevard, were a little worried about many voters being so open about their votes.

Shanna, a junior at UNC - Chapel Hill, felt that not enough people knew enough about the candidates they voted for. "I would like for people to put serious thoughts into the reasoning of the decisions that they make concerning their votes." "If someone is going to vote for Bush, don't just say 'it's because I don't like Clinton,'" said Fox.

Although Shanna is a Tarheel student and Kristina is a Wolfpacker, they both tend to agree on this issue. "It upsets me that a lot of people vote either Republican or Democratic without considering what each candidate has done. They always vote for the same party just because their parents do, or something like that," said Kristina.

Another concern of Kristina's is the bond issue. "One question that I have is where exactly is all of the money coming from for these bonds? Both presidential candidates have based their platforms on lowering taxes, but yet just in N.C. alone, there are billions of dollars at stake in the bonds," said Fox. "Where exactly is this money going to come from?"



The Higher Education Bond was in full prominence in front of Witherspoon Student Center

Senior Citizens weigh in

◆ Senior Citizens focus on presidential race

Shannon Dozier and
Justin Sellers
Correspondents

In the minds of Raleigh's senior citizens, it was not the candidates' positions on abortion, foreign affairs or even Social Security that helped them decide whom to vote for.

Instead, several other factors played roles. First, how the voter was raised. Second, how the candidate was raised. And third, how close together the candidate's eyes were. Bush's eyes, according to one senior at

Alterra Sterling House in Raleigh, were too close together. And Bush, he added, had "that there smirk on his face."

Most seniors said they stayed in the party they were raised in. "My dad was big into politics, and he would roll over in his grave if I voted for Bush," said Vysta Remppson, who has been a life-long Democrat. However, it wasn't just the seniors' backgrounds that influenced their decisions, but the candidates' childhoods as well.

Lucinda Lester, who wasn't able to vote due to health reasons, would have voted for Vice President Al Gore.

Bush hasn't known poverty," Lester said.

On another note, Jessie Fogelhut made her mind up on a simple difference: the candidates' wives.

"Gore's wife has done so many good things already," Fogelhut said. "Mrs. Bush does nothing. What do you hear from her? She had twins, good for her."

All and all, the senior citizens did not get too tied up with the incessant campaign advertising.

Julia McDaniel, who voted for Bush, said it best when she asked, "Who was the other one running?"

Kids Voting USA draws in new voters

◆ Youngsters around the county participated in the democratic process.

Michael Charbonneau
Correspondent

With a Wake County Public School teacher workday on Tuesday, Voting on Election Day 2000 became a family affair in many areas.

Clayton Golden, 70, his wife, Margaret Golden, 68, and their granddaughter, Margaret Golden, 8, all from Raleigh made the trip to the polls together on Tuesday.

At 9:15 a.m., the Golden family made their way into the Millbrook Exchange Park polling center on Spring Forest Road.

Fifteen minutes later, Mr. and Mrs. Golden emerged wearing their "I voted" stickers. Their granddaughter wore her own "Kids Voting USA" sticker.

Golden, a Republican, said he split from his party on some of

his votes, but when it came to the presidential race, his vote went to Bush.

"Well, it's just a simple fact that I don't like Al Gore," said Golden. "Nor do I trust him." Golden also voted for Republican governor candidate, Richard Vinroot.

Like her husband, Margaret Golden voted for Bush and Vinroot, and was especially glad to share the voting experience with her granddaughter.

"This was our first time [voting] as a family affair," said Golden. "And it's great."

The youngest of the Golden trio cast the same votes as her grandparents and, on this teacher workday learned a very valuable lesson.

"I learned how to vote for President," said granddaughter Golden. "And it was really exciting for me because it was my first time."

Kids in grades K-12 had the chance to vote in this election because of a program called Kids Voting USA. The Kids Voting USA Web site for Wake

County, <http://kidsvote.org>, describes the program as, "a private, nonpartisan, non-profit, grassroots organization that promotes voter participation by educating America's youth about the importance of an informed electorate and the responsibilities of voting to sustain democracy."

Their main goals are to instill lifetime voting habits among the young and to encourage the adult population to come out and vote with their kids.

Stacey Ikard, 40, took her two kids, Rachel Krummenacher, 8, and Andrew Krummenacher, 11, to the Sertoma Art Center polling site, in Raleigh.

Ikard, who moved to Raleigh from St. Louis, Miss., only six months ago, said she has been bringing her kids to the polls for six years.

"I bring them with me mainly because I think they need to see what citizenship is all about," said Ikard. "Whenever there is an opportunity, I take them with me."

Ikard says she is not a regis-

tered Democrat, but voted for Mike Easley and Al Gore because she thinks they would do a better job with education. She also voted for both education bonds.

Ikard's daughter Rachel supported the Democrats in the Kids Voting USA election.

"I voted for Al Gore and Mike Easley," said Krummenacher. "I also voted for a judge whose name I don't remember, but he had a really cool commercial."

Her brother Andrew was quick to chime in with his answer.

"I voted for anyone who had a 'D' by his name," boasted Krummenacher. "My math teacher said that Bush equals charm, but Gore equals intelligence."

Both Krummenachers attend York Elementary School and say that the election has been a hot topic in their social studies classes.

At 2:30 p.m., it was time for a Kids Voting USA volunteershift change at the Seventh Day Adventist Church and School

polling site on Tryon Road.

Dana Kublin, 14, her brother Tommy Kublin, 13, their mother Luann Kublin, 40, and a friend Al Inman, 14 exited the church together Tuesday afternoon.

Dana had been volunteering for Kids Voting USA since 6:30 a.m. Her brother, Tommy, joined her around noon. Both kids wore tee shirts with "Kids Voting USA" printed across the front in red, white and blue and both were decorated with several stickers bearing the same logo.

Dana, a freshman at Athens Drive High School, came to help and earn service hours for Key Club. She said that her eight-hour shift had been successful.

"We've had just over 100 kids come vote so far," said Kublin. "We think that's pretty good."

Kublin said that she'd been keeping up with the election in her law and politics class, and voted for Bush and Vinroot because they are Republicans.

Her brother Tommy, a seventh

grader at East Cary Middle School, also earned service hours for volunteering with Kids Voting USA. He also got to cast his vote.

"I voted for Bush because he's a Republican," said Kublin. "I voted for Vinroot because he has a cool name."

Family friend Al Inman, also a freshman at Athens Drive, came out to see what the voting process was all about.

"I voted for Al Gore because he has the same first name as me," said Inman. "For Governor I voted for...uh...oh yeah, Easley. I kinda like Easley."

Luann Kublin, who did not wish to reveal her vote choice, was there to drive this young voting group around. She said the Kids Voting USA program is a great way to teach kids how important voting is.

"They have a voice. It's a right of theirs," said Kublin. "And I think it will become a habit of theirs, because of Kids Voting."

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