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Connect the dots! La la la!
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Dot Matrix
Connect the dots! La la la!
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More dead week barrel of
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Wednesday
December 6, 2000



TECHNICIAN

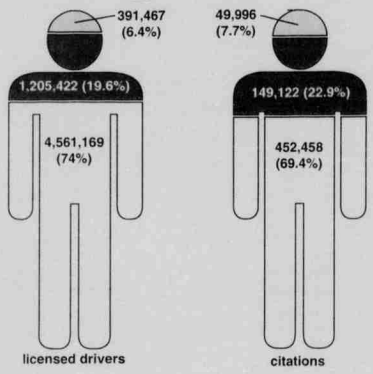
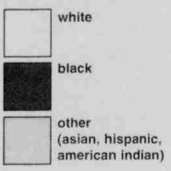
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NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1920

Today	Hi	39
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Tomorrow	Hi	46
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Racial disparities in N.C. traffic stops

1998
north carolina
highway patrol
citations
by race



◆ Research by an N.C. State sociology professor indicates a disparity in the number of minorities stopped by the N.C. Highway Patrol.

Trey Godwin
Senior Staff reporter

Recent documents show that, since 1990, New Jersey state troopers have stopped overwhelmingly disproportionate numbers of minority drivers in vehicle searches for drugs.

The state of North Carolina is taking matters into its own hands to find out whether similar patterns are occurring here.

Seven faculty members from N.C. State and N.C. Central are studying records of traffic stops made in 1998 by the North Carolina Highway Patrol.

Matt Zingraff, College of Humanities and Social Sciences associate dean for research, was among those researchers. In November, he and the group released the mixed results of the study's first phase.

Blacks were generally found to be over-represented in the outcomes examined, with the exception that younger blacks were under-represented in citations.

Zingraff believes that, until more detailed information can be obtained and further analyses completed, it is difficult to make defensible claims about the source or sources of the observed racial disparity in citations, written warnings or searches.

"Right now, we don't know the reasons that racial disparity exists, but by this summer we will have a good guess," said Zingraff.

Zingraff and his associates are now in the second phase of their research, which was paid for by a \$472,000 grant from the National Institute of Justice.

The second phase will give Zingraff more information on

the nature and behavior of drivers.

For example, he needs to know the number of drivers actually on the roads and highways, average miles driven by different racial groups and possible differences in driving behavior, in order to draw conclusions about the extent of racial disparity or its explanation.

In 1998, Zingraff was approached by the North Carolina Department of Crime Control and Public Safety to study data on citations, written warnings and searches made by the NCSHP for the 1998 calendar year.

The research will provide a preliminary assessment of NCSHP activities in anticipation of N.C. Senate Bill 76, the nation's first legislation requiring all state law enforcement agencies to collect and maintain records of all highway traffic stops.

Zingraff defines racial profiling as a law enforcement practice using race as a pretext to stop motorists, rather than suspicion of infractions.

"Since we have identified a certain level of disparity, we now must identify the exact reasons," Zingraff said. "It could be individual discrimination of the officer, it could be an area of deployment, or it could simply be the demographics of people on highways."

Until the research ends in the summer of 2001, Zingraff and his associates will conduct statewide motorist surveys, arrange focus groups of citizens and plan focus groups with NCSHP.

"We must come from many vantage points to try and find a firm grasp of the causes of racial disparity," added Zingraff. According to Zingraff, the problem with racial profiling stems from the federal drug policy.

In 1999, the National Drug Control Strategy maintained that no single solution will adequately address the drug problem in

the United States.

Therefore, it called for strategies to focus on prevention, treatment, research, law enforcement and international cooperation to curb America's drug problem.

The federal government wants to decrease a 50 percent decrease in drug use and availability and at least a 25 percent decrease in the consequences of drug abuse by 2007.

Because most of the drugs in the United States come from other countries, mainly Mexico and South American countries, law enforcement might be stereotyping those people, Zingraff explained.

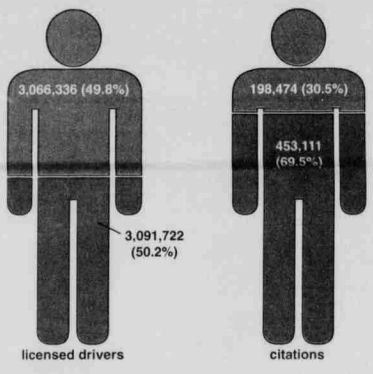
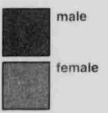
"Stereotypes are sometimes correct, but oftentimes they are wrong," he added. "I'm not implying that law enforcement [officers] target minorities because they might be foreign, but what I'm saying is that if they are told to stop drugs on U.S. highways, then they might be inclined to stop Hispanics, Native Americans and African Americans because of the stereotypes surrounding them. But, because their reasoning isn't based from empirical evidence, it's invalid."

On the other hand, Zingraff points out that law enforcement does have intelligence reports, which call for immediate action. Unfortunately, the number of stops made from intelligence is far lower than the number of random stops.

Zingraff said another problem centered on the National Drug Policy is the greenback. The confiscation of contraband is very lucrative for law enforcement because taxpayers keep the money.

"The money goes into schools, agencies and other organizations that have a vested interest for this type of surplus income," Zingraff said. "If money was not a factor in reducing drugs, there wouldn't be as much [of] an interest or need to pull over with assumption."

1998
north carolina
highway patrol
citations
by sex



There were 6,158,058 licensed drivers in North Carolina in 1998.

Information from "Evaluating North Carolina State Highway Patrol Data: Citations, Warnings, and Searches in 1998," a report submitted to the North Carolina Department of Crime Control & Public Safety and North Carolina State Highway Patrol.

Microsoft launches NCSU student group

◆ A new club on campus, sponsored by Microsoft, gets started tonight.

Tim Clark
Senior Staff Reporter

The N.C. State chapter of Microsoft's StudentDev.org meets for the first time Wednesday night.

The group is built around the StudentDev website, an online resource that gives students access to information regarding Microsoft technologies, as well as putting them in contact with other students throughout North America.

The organization is an extension of Microsoft's existing student consultant program.

One of the first events sponsored by the organization is the PocketPC programming competition, in which students will compete to see who can develop the best program for Microsoft's newest handheld computer. Any type of program is eligible for entry.

"Students can enter anything from a game to a database, as long as it's written for the PocketPC," said Brian Jeffries, Microsoft student consultant for NCSU.

At the university level of the competition, professors will judge the programs, picking the application that they feel will

best represent the school in the national competition.

The members of the winning team from NCSU will each receive PocketPC computers, as well as going on to compete for as much as \$25,000 at the national level.

The NCSU competition will kick off at the first StudentDev meeting tonight in Withers Hall. The software required for participation will be given away at the meeting.

Unique to StudentDev are the ties between the group and the Web site, which connect students not only on a chapter level, but also on a national one. Students can sign onto the site for access to technical articles and message boards, as well as their local chapter page.

Participation in club events, such as competitions, requires free registration at the StudentDev.org Web site. While registration comes without obligation to students, the size of the campus chapter has an impact on the money and support that Microsoft is willing to put into that university's student consultant program.

The consultant program is responsible for hosting events and distributing free software on college campuses.

"The student consultant program is really a link between students and Microsoft," said Jeffries.

In planning for early next year is a Windows 2000 installation fair. Though the event is still in its preliminary planning stages, Microsoft plans to offer installa-

tion of this latest version of its operating system, in addition to giving students free licensed

See START, Page 3

Holiday eating tip: skip that second helping

◆ Push away from the table this holiday season. Overeating has been connected to next-day heart attacks.

Hillary Bentman
The Daily Free Press (Boston U)

(U-WIRE) BOSTON - That second helping of turkey and that extra sliver of pie this holiday season may just be your last.

The consumption of unusually large meals increases the risk of a heart attack, according to a recent study conducted by Francisco Lopez-Jimenez, a cardiologist at Brigham and Women's Hospital and Murray Mittleman, a physician at Boston's Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center.

The study, in which people were interviewed within three days of suffering a heart attack, examined their eating patterns the day before the episode.

"We compared patients to themselves, what they were doing 24 hours before the attack, as well as an hour before and what meals they had eaten," said Lopez-Jimenez.

Researchers questioned 1,986 men and women on what they had eaten 26 hours as well as

one to two hours before their heart attacks. More than 150 said they had eaten a large meal the day before the attack, and 25 reported eating a large meal two hours prior to the attack.

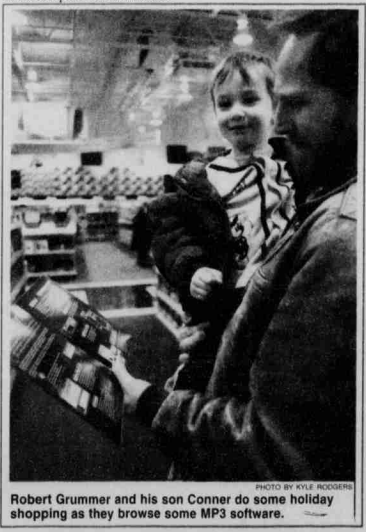
"If a patient had a large meal one hour before a heart attack and a large meal the day before, that case would not be induced by a large meal," Lopez-Jimenez said. "If, however, a patient had a large meal one hour before the heart attack, but not a large meal 24 hours before, that would be considered a case induced by a large meal."

This one-to-two-hour time frame prior to the heart attack was the most crucial time, Lopez-Jimenez said. The risk of an attack during this period increased 10 times. After the third hour, however, the increased risk disappeared.

Although the patients were not asked specifically what they had eaten, the researchers did ask them to describe a "large" meal, a term relative to each person.

"There is no specific size of a large meal. A big meal is relative to the size of the person, their gender and age," Lopez-Jimenez said. "We were looking for things out of routine."

See EAT, Page 3



Robert Grummer and his son Connor do some holiday shopping as they browse some MP3 software.

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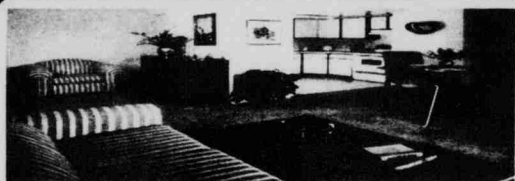
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Faculty member struck by vehicle

A faculty member was hit by a vehicle at the crosswalk on Dan Allen Drive at approximately 3:30 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 4.

According to Public Safety Sgt. Jon Barnwell, the victim sustained only minor injuries and was not transported to a medical facility for treatment.

The driver of the vehicle was issued a citation.

Thieves steal glove compartment, \$1 bill and bass speakers

Three vehicle break-ins on campus were reported to Public Safety last week.

An unknown subject punctured a hole in the plastic passenger side window of NCSU student Laura Mitchell's blue 1997 Jeep Wrangler and stole her glove compartment sometime between 9 p.m. Saturday, and 1:45 p.m. Sunday, according to the Public Safety police report.

The break-in occurred on

Thurman Drive, north of Bragaw Lot North. The plastic window unit is valued at \$200, and the stolen glove box is valued at \$250.

According to the report, the vehicle registration and service manuals were the only items missing. The victim's detachable radio face was still in the vehicle at the time that she discovered the theft.

No fingerprints were taken, and there are no suspects in the case.

Unknown subjects broke into NCSU student Carl Davis's black 1993 Isuzu Amigo in the Pullen Parking Lot sometime between 11:50 p.m. Saturday night, Dec. 2, and 1:00 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 3.

According to the police report, the subjects tore both plastic windows behind the seats, resulting in \$400 of damage, and made a hole in the passenger side large enough for them to reach the door and gain access to the vehicle.

The subjects were unsuccessful in their attempts to remove the dash CD player, resulting in \$300 of damage. They stole the only paper currency in the vehicle, a \$1 bill, and left the change in the car.

There are no suspects in the case.

A vehicle breaking or entering and larceny in the Lee Lot somewhere between 8 p.m. Nov. 25, and 12 p.m. Nov. 30 was also reported to Public Safety.

According to the police report, unknown subjects smashed the back window of Bragaw Residence Hall resident David Green's vehicle and stole two 12-inch bass speakers, valued at \$1,100. The damaged rear window was valued at \$100.

No fingerprints were taken, and

Other triggers may include strenuous exercise, drug use and sex. Risk factors, such as high cholesterol, obesity and smoking, are long-term causes of heart disease.

The increased risk of a heart attack caused by a large meal will be small for a healthy individual who does not smoke and has no history of heart problems, researchers say.

With the large meals that accompany the holiday season, Lopez-Jimenez believes many people are placing themselves at greater risk of suffering a heart attack.

EAT

Continued from Page 1

Lopez-Jimenez calls large meals a "trigger," or an action that directly leads to, heart attacks. The ingestion of large amounts of food may cause the release of hormones that place stress on the heart, as well as blood clotting and narrowing of the arteries.

"Large meals are not the most important triggers of heart attacks," Lopez-Jimenez said. "There are at least 10 to 20 different triggers."

there are no suspects in the case.

Fire at Free Expression Tunnel kiosk

Public Safety was called to the scene of an unlawful burning in a kiosk at the south end of the Free Expression Tunnel at approximately 1:49 a.m. on Sunday.

According to the police report, the Public Safety Fire Protection Division put out the fire with a fire extinguisher brought to the scene by Owen Residence Hall Residence Advisor Amber Siegel.

There was no damage to the kiosk, as only the paper in the kiosk had burned. The call to the Raleigh Fire Department was cancelled.

Computer equipment stolen

Several thousand dollars of computer equipment was stolen from a room in Kilgore Hall over the Thanksgiving Holiday.

The equipment was last seen in Room 107 at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 22, and it was discovered missing at 7:30 a.m. on Monday, Nov. 27, said Betty Coleman of the horticulture department in the police report.

Stolen were a 19-inch Sony monitor valued at \$615, a Sony Power Mac G4 valued at \$3,523, a keyboard and mouse, each worth \$60, and a super disk drive valued at \$150.

There are no suspects in the case.

START

Continued from Page 1

copies of their own. Throughout the full-day event, a series of tech talks are being scheduled, where Microsoft personnel will speak regarding company technologies.

The installation fair will likely be scheduled for early in the Spring 2001 semester.

The first meeting of the NCSU chapter of StudentDev will be held tonight in Withers 210A. More information is available from www.studentdev.org.

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TRUE OR FALSE?

25% OF PEOPLE SAY THEY CAN DETECT THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN HOW EACH NOSTRIL PERCEIVES SMELL.

AMERICANS EAT APPROXIMATELY 350 SLICES OF PIZZA PER SECOND.

7 OUT OF 100 AMERICANS HAVE FLOSSED THEIR TEETH WITH THEIR HAIR.

MEN BURP 4.7 TIMES PER DAY WHILE WOMEN BURP 2.1 TIMES PER DAY.

8% OF COLLEGE STUDENTS HAVE NOT WATCHED T.V. IN THE LAST WEEK.

NEARLY 2/3 OF COLLEGE STUDENTS DRINK ON AVERAGE LESS THAN ONE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE PER DAY.*


ONE OUT OF EVERY FOUR AMERICANS HAS APPEARED ON TV.

3.9% OF WOMEN DON'T WEAR ANY UNDERWEAR. 6.4% OF MEN GO COMMANDO.

*SOURCE: CORE INSTITUTE 1999

GUESS WHAT? EVERY ONE OF THESE IS TRUE. MOST IMPORTANTLY, COLLEGE STUDENTS ARE MAKING RESPONSIBLE CHOICES ABOUT DRINKING. THANKS FOR MAKING INTELLIGENT CHOICES THE NORM.

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TECHNICIAN'S VIEW

Stamp of disapproval

IS THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE'S PRICE INCREASE OF STAMPS JUSTIFIABLE? OR SHOULD IT BE LOOKING AT OTHER OPTIONS?

Letters sent with the United States Postal Service will be raised by a penny from 33 cents to 34 cents starting Jan. 7. The decision came from the presidentially appointed governors of the nation's postal system.

Rates are rising 4.6 percent, enough to add almost \$3 billion in revenue to offset rising costs. The cost of a first-class stamp will increase from 33 cents to 34 cents for the first ounce of postage, but each additional ounce will drop from 22 cents to 21 cents. Postcards' postage will remain at 20 cents.

Furthermore, international rates will increase 5.8 percent.

Postage for this year's holiday cards and packages will remain the same. Transitional stamps will be introduced Dec. 15, the same day the 34-cent stamps will go on sale.

The Postal Service, which is self-financing and under a mandate to become financially profitable, lost \$199 million in the fiscal year that ended on Sept. 30 — despite record productivity gains and an overall 3.1 percent mail volume growth rate.

Without having received any tax dollars for its operational costs

since 1982, the Postal Service is facing an increasingly difficult financial situation in the face of a communication revolution.

But are more expensive stamps the answer?

The Postal Service's infrastructure is vast — thanks to the pre-email days of communication. Is it perhaps too vast? Or at least outdatedly expensive? The service needs to send a message to its own offices; return to sender. The Postal Service isn't suffering from bad business as much as it's suffering from bad technology.

In the face of free email and plummeting long-distance telephone rates, so-called "snail mail" (cyber-slang for paper postage) seems not only needlessly cumbersome but also needlessly expensive.

Frankly, the Postal Service doesn't have cache anyone in the communication world, a world increasingly run by webcams, radio-enabled cell phones and video conferences.

The service may claim to "fly like an eagle," but their decision-making policies are making that metaphor a little too similar, after all, the only envelope the Postal Service seems to be pushing is that of extinction.

T E C H N I C I A N V O L . 5
/ded/'wēk/ barrel o' fun No. 2

Connect the dots and color these classic dot to dots!

Women: lifeguards at the gene pool



Rachael Overcash
STAFF COLUMNIST

The scientific explanation of evolution leans on Darwin's theory of natural selection, which was based on his observations from the Galapagos Islands. The religious view stems from the Bible, which states that God created Earth and life in seven days. No matter what evolutionary view you take, you cannot deny there has been a change in speciation over time.

Speciation is the concept of similar species differentiating themselves over time. An example of speciation would be the idea of starting out with one type of human race that over time has separated into the multiple races we see today. For many years this concept of speciation was explained by geographic isolation. Species that were once the same were differentiated only because they were physically isolated from each other. This theory is incorrect.

Recently, scientists from the University of Southampton in England came up with the explanation that speciation was a result of female preference for certain male courtship characteristics. This explanation developed from the study in Lake Malawi, which contains many species of cichlid fish. These fish have been linked to the same family but today are distinctly different species. The original evolutionary explanation of this phenomenon was that Lake Malawi over its history formed physically isolated lagoons that broke up the fish population allowing them to evolve into separate species.

Yet, today the idea that the lake would be separated into lagoons long enough to stimulate speciation is thought impossible. Now, the more

logical explanation of female preference for speciation of the cichlid is thought to be correct. Why doesn't male preference play a role?

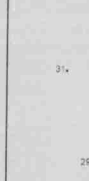
Female's preference with whom they mate with could potentially catalyze a major change in our societal composition. The idea of creating a new species or going away with a species is solely based on female preference is scary. In humans, this could mean that if one-day females up decided that they will only procreate with blond or brown hair white males, wiping out all other races. So what does this mean in our lives? It means, even if we don't know it, females play more of an important role in the next generation produced than we think.

I know there are guys out there who are afraid they won't have offspring. It is a natural feeling for guys to have. They want to choose a good mate, so they can pass on their genes to an offspring. When looking for that husband or a wife to have children with, you want that person to have good characteristics that will be passed onto any children produced. This selection concept is seen not only in humans but also in all other species. You mate with the best and healthiest for ultimate survival.

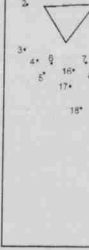
Although these ideas may sound primitive they are actually a true explanation for relationships today. Guys and girls either consciously or unconsciously pick people to date based on admirable qualities they would like to see in their children. These thoughts are nothing to be afraid of; they are actually quite normal.

So next time you ask that girl out on a date, think about how her preference can play a role in your speciation.

If you have any questions or comments for Rachael regarding her abstract theories on speciation and female preference email her at rtoverc@univ.ncsu.edu



Richard Morgan
STAFF COLUMNIST



You're Christian. Now what?



Richard Morgan
STAFF COLUMNIST

Sometimes, I'm ashamed to be a Christian.

Of course, when I say that, I am referring to the human aspect rather than the holy aspect of the religion.

I believe we Christians have become gluttons of glory, turning our daily bread into our daily cake and, in doing so, become like children licking icing from the spoon, gorging ourselves on the goodness of God as hundreds upon thousands around us die of thirst for his living water.

In adding layer upon layer to the cage of convenient Christian culture, we have used the subject of God for the service of Satan and committed some horrific sins along the way.

When we approach prayer with a "gimme gimme gimme" attitude, we commit spiritual rape. When, instead of God, we turn to ourselves to find wisdom, love, patience and purpose, we commit spiritual masturbation. When we adjust — even abandon — our convictions for the secular world, we commit spiritual abortion. In our turning to each other for growth rather than turning to God, we commit spiritual incest; and, unless it stops, the next generation of believers will suffer the consequences of such vile reproductive efforts.



Robert Jaitell
STAFF COLUMNIST

Becoming a writer for Technician has put me in contact with some of the scariest people on campus. I am not talking about the staff itself, though I am sure it enjoys an above-average population of weirdoes (what's that? I'm on the staff?), but I'm talking about the kind of people who respond to opinions. In trying to understand why someone would email me in response to an article, I have created a profile of my average email respondent.

From my research (the emails I get), the average conservative respondent is a canine-like creature, matching a Doberman in vision, devotion, intelligence and looks. And in the same way a well-trained Doberman can probably bite my head off, a well-trained conservative can be a horrible, horrible creature. Perhaps the greatest hope someone in the attack path of a Doberman conservative has is the knowledge that dogs have short memories and can be easily fooled. This means that it's very easy for a Doberman conservative to forget what he's talking about or apply what he's talking about to a larger body of knowledge. That is why I am able to write articles attacking the core of conservative philosophy without hearing a yelp, but if I say something seemingly bad about Jesus or George W. Bush, I get mauled via email.

It's as if Doberman conservatives can only respond and remember to talk

to spit us out (Revelation 3:16).

We need to realize that, when the devil attacks, he attacks with wisdom, knowing our faults; and so his attacks come in small ways and they come in disguise.

I challenge any Christian who reads this to give up the want for the comfort of Eden and embrace the need for the complaint of Jeremiah: "Wherever I speak, I cry out proclaiming violence and destruction. So the word of the Lord has brought me insult and reproach all day long. But if I say, 'I will not mention Him or speak any more in His name,' His word is in my heart like a fire, a fire shut up in my bones. I am weary of holding it in; indeed, I cannot" (Jeremiah 20:8-9).

Remember the Scripture in which an angel warns, "I know your deeds; you have a reputation of being alive, but you are dead. Wake up! Strengthen what remains and is about to die, for I have not found your deeds complete in the sight of my God" (Revelation 3:1-2). Above all, we need to pray — for our nation, for our campus and, frankly, for ourselves.

Questions? Comments? Email Richard at ncsu_writer@yahoo.com

Conservatism has gone to the dogs



Robert Jaitell
STAFF COLUMNIST

about a few key buzzwords (muffin!) without understanding the greater implication of what they are saying. Hence, the limited memory causes the Dobermans to defend a completely arbitrary set of positions.

However, the Doberman's devotion to its master may also explain the puzzle of why it is true that a well-trained dog will always do what its master says. That's why when I write about a topic, say evolution, I get a copy-and-paste of every intelligent design (neo-creationism) Web page ever created. By mentioning the word "evolution," the Doberman conservative is pushed into a fixed-action pattern, whereby he does only and exactly what his master tells him to do. Suppressing the master told the dog to do something unorthodox, like barking him a pie, the Doberman would be thoroughly confused because barking a pie isn't part of the standard dog-training regimen. Thus, the Doberman conservative demonstrates strict devotion to what his master tells him to do, but little independent thought.

To round out its personality, stupidity accentuates the Doberman's inconsistency and blind faith. Dog-owners know what happens when their pet observes itself in a mirror: it loses its mind and bounces off the walls like it's just taken 400 pounds of black tar heroin. Such behavior in a human would be unacceptable. Luckily, Doberman conservatives are sub-human. This excuses the insane emails they write when they try to comprehend sarcasm or a satirical portrayal of themselves. One should understand that the Doberman conservative's inability to comprehend sarcasm and underlying stupidity are innate parts of its character, but it is

also this part that makes the attack dog a horrendous sight.

The final aspect of canine-ology that needs to be discussed is the origin of these Doberman conservatives. The common link between the bizarre range of emails I receive has to be ideology. All of my "dog messages" try to adhere to an inflexible standard of beliefs. The Dobermans always take a position consistent with its ingrained ideology, regardless of its consequences in reality. Thus, Doberman conservatives who have a reputation for only caring about the "bottom line" ignore the "bottom line" when it comes to political positions; they only care about preserving a consistent ideology, not a consistent reality. However, reality is the "bottom line," and it should be the only thing that matters. Ideology should change to match the desired reality, not the reverse.

Of course, conservatives aren't the only dog-people. Indeed, anyone who cares more about ideology than its effects is subject to the same criticism. This means that liberals, religious-types, atheists, conservatives, whites, blacks, yellows, browns, horses, donkeys and zebras can and do uphold ideology over everything. Ideology is responsible for the greatest tragedies in human history and the greatest annoyances today (Election Bonanza 2000). If the abstracting layer of ideology were thrown away, there would be no more cursed dog-people to make life tedious for ordinary people.

People who send Robert good emails aren't filthy dogs, they can email him at rjaitell@univ.ncsu.edu

TECHNICIAN

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MATTERS OF STATE
A MESSAGE FROM THE STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT

Karate just isn't enough

A recap of Fall 2000



Harold Pettigrew
STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT

Where did the time go? We have had an action packed semester full of new issues. It is now time to reflect and look back at what's been done so that we set the direction for the new year. Student Government tackled a lot of issues this semester and amazingly enough we are now at the end of this semester.

Our year started off with the infamous "Nuisance Ordinance" (Ordinance No. 2000-848), which came about this summer as a hostile response by the City Council to the Annual Brent Road tradition. N.C. State alumnus Benson Kirkman, who is the representative for the NCSU area, authored the Nuisance Ordinance. The enactment of this legislation proved to be a reckless use of power exerted by the City Council. Throughout this semester, Student Government has lobbied the City Council to have the ordinance repealed due to its violation of student's rights and its vague terminology. Many students have already been cited under this legislation and we are currently working to have the ordinance repealed in January.

As everyone is aware, this is an election year. Many issues were centered on student participation in the election process. To get students involved in the elections this year, we enacted the Vote 2000 campaign. This campaign was created by Student Government to register, educate and finally get students to the voting polls on Nov. 7.

One of the major accomplishments of the campaign was the on-campus poll site located at Witherspoon Student Center, the new site here for Precinct 01-23. As a result of all the voter registration efforts on campus, over 2,000 students became newly registered for the 2000 elections. Also, we were able to build coalition with many youth advocacy organizations such as Rock the Vote, and Youth Vote 2000.

The Bond was the single most important issue for the students across the state in North

Carolina. With this referendum, over 73 percent of North Carolinians voted for \$3.1 billion to go toward capital improvements for the University of North Carolina system. NCSU will receive approximately \$468 million of the Bond money.

With the success of the Vote 2000 campaign, we will now make a presence in the city of Raleigh elections, which will take place next fall for all eight of the City Council positions. Next year, the newly elected council members will have no choice but to hear the voice of NCSU's student body as we will have an influential in the city elections.

With the success of our football team, we faced issues with ticket distribution. A couple of students were injured as distribution took place and many students felt that the policy was not fair and equitable to the student body. To address this issue, a Ticket Distribution Task Force was commissioned to examine the issue of ticket distribution. The task force has been charged with evaluating the current policies that are in place and coming up with the most fair and reasonable way of distributing tickets. They will examine all the factors surrounding distribution and make recommendations about the policy. The task force is well-represented with students from the different aspect of Student Government, Greek life and the student body.

We have many issues that are ahead of us for next semester. Because of the growing interest, we will explore issues with diversity and race relations. Currently, there is a need for discussions and activities that have been absent from our campus community. Also, we will continue discussions about the placement of our tuition and increase our lobbying efforts with the N.C. Legislature and Board of Governors on other issues like unmet financial need and tuition increases in the future.

Harold hopes that everyone has a non-stressful exam period and great Christmas break. If you would like to find out more about what's going on or get involved feel free to email me at shp@ncsu.edu

Jacquelyn Einsel STAFF COLUMNIST

All men are not rapists. Most men are respectful friends, thoughtful boyfriends, loving fathers, doting husbands, and protective brothers. They're all-around decent human beings and great to be around.

But there are some who aren't. And after a certain age — say, when she leaves the protection of her home and family — a woman needs to be active in figuring out which men fall into which category. The people she comes into contact with aren't filtered through her family and favorite friends, and it becomes her responsibility to make sure she's taking care of herself and her safety.

There are some guys out there with their own agendas, who aren't concerned with the well-being of the women around them. And that's where there is the need to be careful. Girls, read on, guys, you only need continue if you've got a girlfriend. Or a mother. Or a sister. Or a friend who's a girl. Or if you think you saw a girl on the street once.

Awareness is the biggest problem. Before anything else, be aware of your surroundings, your situation, your circumstances. Sometimes it's a lot like driver's ed. Knowing what's going on around you and having an escape route planned gives you a huge head start.

When you're walking at night, carry your keys. Have them in your right hand (assuming you're right-handed) and be alert enough to notice who's walking behind you, or if the car a half block ahead is running or not. If someone attacks you, fight dirty and intend to get away with it.

Forget the sneaky jujitsu moves your boyfriend taught you and realize that, unfortunate as it is, most women have only 55-65 percent of the upper-body strength men possess. Those are pretty bad odds for a fistfight. Go for what you shouldn't: eyes, groin, whatever you think you can reach.

Whistles are good. Personal alarms are better. They sell for about \$10 or \$15 and are about the size of your computer mouse — only when you yank on the cord, the thing yowls louder than a cat in heat (plus, you can't shut it up with a sledgehammer). Attackers typically go after the source of the noise (make a lot of it) and so sometimes a whistle in the mouth is more trouble, dentally, than it's worth.

Keep in mind that no matter what, you do not want to be taken to the secondary location. Your odds of keeping yourself in one clean piece go down dramatically the instant you leave. Kick, scream, yell, be rude, whatever — just don't get into a car or go anywhere with anyone you don't trust. This extends to next Friday night's party. Remember that awful story you heard about your roommate's best friend's sister's suitemate? If you're at a party, stay there; if you're leaving, go with friends. If it doesn't feel smart, it's probably not. Women's intuition is knocked a lot, but over 90 percent of women who are the victims of assault report having a "funny feeling" right before it happened. Trust this. If a situation feels funny, get out of it.

Sometimes people are hesitant to remove themselves from a situation that feels funny, but doesn't have a red flag all over it. Societal politeness is a great necessity and a good thing, but it

has its time and its place, and it's good to realize that sometimes it can be overruled. After all, how smart is it to close yourself into a small, soundproof metal box with a scary stranger? Get out of the elevator. Switch sides of the street. Pull over and let the guy following you pass. Do what you need to do to make yourself feel safe and to take control of your own situation.

Girls, please realize that you need to take control of your safety as you begin to take control of your own life. College is an awesome time to explore and do new cool things and go wild, but it's also a lot of trial-by-fire and near misses. Make the effort to take care of yourself by letting your roommate know where you are (if you're embarrassed, don't make a big deal out of it — just leave a message on the white board, "Emily, I'm going to be back from my chemistry review at 8:30 if you want to watch Ally McBeal...") Be aware of your surroundings. Take a self-defense class if you can (N.C. State offers them every so often for \$6). Hang out with guys that worry about you — friends that offer to walk you back from the lab that ends at 10:30 PM or walk you back to your car. Let them know you appreciate it (and then give them my phone number).

Jacquelyn has her own personal alarm. She got it for her birthday instead of a car. E-mail her your condolences at jeinsel@unity.ncsu.edu

CAMPUS FORUM

Christians' God, Muslims' Allah 'same'

In regard to the Nov. 29 issue of *Technician*, Richard Morgan's "Do the Ten Commandments still matter?" For the first of the 10 commandments, "Thou shalt have no other gods before me" is in reference to there being only one God as in a monotheistic religion as opposed to religions who believe in more than one god or in another entity. Religions that believe in one god include Christianity, Judaism and Islam.

Islam has always been a monotheistic religion that believe in one god. Whether you call him God or Allah, it is still the same creator.

Seyna Doris Bennett
Teaching Technician
Mathematics

Enough America-bashing

After reading Aaron Jacobson's one-sided rant against the School of the Americas (SOA), I have to wonder what exactly his agenda is.

What is currently known as the School of the Americas has provided a valuable service to Latin America for over 50 years. The school's impartial, crucial knowledge and training to Latin American military and domestic police forces that have helped their recipients fight communism, combat drug trafficking, recover from natural disasters, keep the peace and perform other vital functions.

Yes, there have been atrocities committed by graduates of the SOA. However, those were not ordered by anyone at the SOA and usually not even by the commanding officers of those who committed them. These crimes were not caused by the SOA; in fact, SOA graduates have been instrumental in preventing and uncovering such actions.

Only a tiny fraction of the 61,000 SOA grads have ever been implicated in attacks on civilians or otherwise unlawful activities. Torture and other human rights abuses are not taught at the school, but instead have been a part of the military culture of Latin America for several hundred years.

When, in 1989, a few sentences suggesting improper handling of intelligence sources were discovered in supplemental manuals originating outside the school, they were immediately removed. A mere 48 students had ever received the manuals.

The truth about the School of the Americas is that for over 50 years it has promoted professionalism, the rule of law, obedience to civilian control and a commitment to democracy in Latin America. The claims of its opponents are blown out of proportion and twisted to fit the worldview they would like to impose on the rest of us. People like Jacobson seem to care more about finding things wrong with the U.S., even if they have to make them up, than finding the truth.

This incessant America-bashing has gone on long enough. The "flower children" and hippies of our parents' generation failed to con the American people into believing that our nation was evil and must be replaced with some sort of defenseless, drugged-up, tree-worshipping, socialist "utopia" in which individual liberty is stripped away. Well, this generation's leftists will fare no better. It is time for good, freedom-loving Americans to stand up and challenge the vulgar and libelous accusations of those who would see America perish.

Darren O'Connor
Junior
Physics

Price is wrong

I found the title of Meredith Price's Dec. 1 letter to Campus Forum.

"Technician should 'get facts straight,'" very ironic because it is she who needs to do a little more research. Damon Thornton did not come before the student judicial board; instead the Office of Student Conduct (OSC) handed down his sanctioning.

When a student receives a campus appearance ticket, he first goes to see either Paul Cousins or Carrie Zelina in the OSC. If suspension is a possible sanction, the student has the opportunity to choose whether he will go before the student judicial board or have an administrative hearing with the OSC. Thornton chose the latter of the two

options. This is not an unusual occurrence. However, because he chose this option, he did not have to face a group of fellow students. The OSC and Judicial Board regularly deal with cases that happen off campus and have full authority to do so.

I would also like to add that the details of the sanctions he received are confidential and were not released by the OSC, so we as a student body should keep this in mind when judging whether his prescribed sanctions were too harsh or too light. Since judicial board did not have the opportunity to handle this hearing, please do not give us the credit.

Shaun Mercer
Junior
Business Management
Judicial Assistant
NCSU Judicial Board

'A blow of ennu'

Yesterday as I sat leafing through a back-issue of *The Progressive*, contemplating the recent collapse of Ralph Nader's presidential bid, my eye fell upon a *Technician* op-ed by Nathan Lintner's opinion piece, "The ultimate end of liberalism is communism" (Dec. 1).

After reading it, I felt a crushing blow of ennu as I understood for the first time the sheer foolishness of my political views. How could liberals have been so wrong for so long?

The creation of child-labor laws, the 40-hour work week, unionizing to argue for greater pay and health benefits, pushing forward increases in the minimum wage, school lunch funding, working toward universal health care; such obvious communist leaning!

Then I reflected on the current sorry state of socialist governments worldwide. Consider all those poor, stifled people in Western Europe. Think of their former creativity and initiative, demolished under the weight of Progressive, Liberal, and even (shudder) Green governments. Gone for good are the days of public art, of fine architecture, of innovative music.

Here in the fresh, inspiring free market I can easily realize my potential for artistic expression, compassion and philanthropy. Where else but America can you find such enthusiastic support for the public arts, for the building of strong communities and the appreciation of the unique value of every human person?

Historically, our domestic and foreign policies show just how selfless and giving we can be.

I look forward to a compassionately conservative government led by self-made bootstrappers like DUBYA: Voluntary environmental compliance for polluting industries? At last! Corporate warfare? Hey, companies need a break! A huge upper-class tax cut? Michael Eisner can barely afford a new ivory back-scratcher!

Really, who could possibly think that these are bad ideas? Thank you, Nathan, for enlightening this former liberal.

Jon Williams
Senior
Environmental Engineering
Philosophy

Student Senate 'denied voice' to farm workers; boycott decision 'racist'

The Student Senate last week defeated a resolution endorsing the boycott of Mt. Olive Pickle Co. based on flawed and irrelevant information presented them in debate.

Mt. Olive representatives were present at the meeting. Lynn Williams of Mt. Olive declared that Mt. Olive does not dictate who growers have to hire. This is completely irrelevant to the debate at hand. No one has asked them to do this. It was presented as a scare tactic and is nothing more than anti-union propaganda.

Williams also claimed that Mt. Olive "operates with ethics and fair play." Perhaps she forgot that Mt. Olive does not dictate who growers have to hire. This is completely irrelevant to the debate at hand. No one has asked them to do this. It was presented as a scare tactic and is nothing more than anti-union propaganda.

respected advocate for farm workers, it should be pointed out that no farm workers or representatives from FLOC, which has collected over 3,000 union cards signed by farm workers designating them as their bargaining unit, were invited to speak. This displays the plight of migrant farm workers perhaps better than anything else that went on.

Farm laborers are not given a voice in their workplace or in their residence while working in North Carolina.

The student senate has not only declined to support the boycott of Mt. Olive called by farm workers, but has denied them a voice. In this respect, N.C. State Student Senate is no better than Mt. Olive Pickle Company. The senate opposition to the resolution presented nativist and racist arguments. Mt. Olive presented an extreme anti-union argument, despite the right of all workers to form a union and bargain collectively. Thirty-one senators supported these arguments when they voted "no."

Student Senate has spoken for the student body and has said that we do not respect the rights of workers.

Kevin Blair
Senior
Food Science

Crane promotes 'sexual obedience'

Where I stand, Ms. Crane has it wrong.

If I find the woman I will choose to share my life with, it will be because she loves the same world I love, not because she loves a shadow of my material existence, or a shadow the imitates the shape of an archetypal hero.

And if I do not find such a woman, then I will die without having shared my life with anyone, and I will die a virgin.

Ms. Crane would be a tyrant's ambition, reducing them to mere sexual obedience, whether she understands what her words mean or not. I do not need any woman that badly.

Christopher Hinson
Freshman
Computer Science

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pillars of faith

Information on Ramadan, the holy month for Muslims

Muhammad Aly Balagamwala
Special to Technician

Sun., Nov. 26, 4:30 p.m.: Muslims all over the United States wait patiently for the sun to set, waiting to sight a crescent in the sky; a crescent that marks the beginning of a new lunar month; the ninth month of the Islamic calendar; the month known as Ramadan.

Islam, which is the fastest growing religion in the U.S. and the world, has its roots in the religion of the Prophet Abraham who preached of one God, the Supreme Being, who is the Creator, the Sustainer, and the Lord of the Universe. Prophet Muhammad, a direct descendant of Abraham through his son Ishmael, was born in Makkah (Mecca) in the year 569. His father died before he was born and at the age of six his mother passed away also. He was then raised by his grandfather and on his death by his paternal Uncle Abu Talib.

Growing up, Muhammad was a shepherd, minding flocks in the desert (a profession it seems that is common to most prophets). When he grew up, he started trading with his uncle and soon his honesty had earned him the name of Al-Amin (The Trustworthy). Muhammad started trading for a widow named Khadijah and after working for her for a few years, she indirectly proposed to him for marriage. Despite the fact that she was 15 years his senior, he accepted her offer.

Arabia, at the time of Muhammad, was a place where people had deviated from the true monotheistic message of Abraham and started worshipping idols. Muhammad did not accept these polytheistic practices, and as he grew older, he would retreat to a cave in the mountains to meditate. It was

one of these trips, during the month of Ramadan, that an event occurred that would not only change Muhammad's life but also strongly affect the rest of history.

As Muhammad sat in the cave meditating, he felt a strong hand grip him and a deep voice said, "Read!" "I cannot read," replied Muhammad. "Read," the voice commanded again. "What shall I read?" asked Muhammad. Suddenly the grip was released and Muhammad heard the first words of what is known as the Quran, the holy book of the Muslims. The first verses said "Read in the name of your Lord, Who created. Created man from a clot, Read, and your Lord is the Most Bountiful. Who taught (to write) with the pen. Taught man what he knew not" (Quran 96:1-5).

Muhammad was shaken by this experience and he rushed home to Khadijah frightened. Khadijah comforted him and after he had recovered from the experience took him to her cousin Waraqa, a learned scribe who was well versed in the Old Testament and the Gospel. Waraqa confirmed that the voice that Muhammad had heard was of none other than the Angel Gabriel, the messenger who brought God's words to his Prophets. The night this event happened is known as Lailat-ul-Qadr (The night of Power or Decree).

Slowly, Muhammad started preaching to those around him



and then to others in Makkah. He taught of the One God whom Abraham had worshipped. The same God who had sent Moses and Jesus as Prophets as guides for their people. Muhammad

was faced with a lot of resistance from the tribes of Makkah, who felt this new religion threatened their authority and their way of life.

The people of Makkah perse-

cuted the Muslims for 13 years until finally they were given permission by God to migrate to the city of Yathrib, the people of whom had accepted Islam and had invited Muhammad to help them settle their tribal feuds. In 621 or 622 AD, after all the Muslims had already reached Yathrib, Muhammad made the migration to Yathrib, which the people renamed Madinah-tun-Nabi, or the City of the Prophet.

In Medina, the following verse was revealed that established the third pillar of Islam: "O you who believe! Fasting has been prescribed to you as it was prescribed for those before you. So that you may remain conscious of God" (Quran 2:183). Fasting is to refrain from having any food or drink between dawn and sunset.

In addition to these dietary restrictions, one who is fasting can not engage in sexual intercourse. Fasting also demands that one refrain from idle talk, from lying, cheating, and all other vices that one may have. Fasting is obligatory on every Muslim past the age of puberty, who is mentally and physically fit, in a settled situation (not traveling) and is sure that fasting will not cause any physical injury.

There are many that are exempted from fasting (some exemptions are optional).

Among these are the sick, the elderly, those who are traveling more than 50 miles from home, pregnant women and nursing mothers and women who are menstruating. Those who are temporarily unable to fast must make up the days they miss at a later date or feed a poor person as expiation for missing the fast.

Some of the main benefits of fasting are an increased compassion for those in need of the necessities of life, a sense of self-purification and reflection and a renewed focus on spirituality. Muslims also appreciate the feeling of togetherness shared by family and friends throughout the month. Perhaps the greatest practical benefit is the yearly lesson in self-restraint and discipline that can carry forward to other aspects of a Muslim's life such as work and education.

While fasting is obligatory to perform, it should not hinder one's regular life. Just because one is fasting does not mean that s/he takes the month off work or school. For if one were to do that then the entire exercise would be of no avail. Islam teaches one to balance the spiritual and physical aspects of life. Thus, life goes on as usual for Muslims as they mingle with co-workers and fellow students during the month. Indeed it is sometimes a challenge to be around places where people might be eating but it is resisting these temptations that increase the pleasure of fasting and increases self-discipline and control of one's desires and cravings.

If you would like to know more about Ramadan, fasting, Islam, or Muslims at N.C. State please contact me at President@MSA-NCSCU.Com. I will be glad to answer any questions.

IMAGE FROM WWW.IFCD.COM

Paying tribute to the BOSS

Chandler Carriker
Senior Staff Writer

In 1982, prior to his *Born In The USA* explosion, Bruce Springsteen released *Nebraska*, an album which challenged not only the ideas listeners had about the Boss, but about what a rock album was in general. Completely produced on a 4-track machine in Springsteen's apartment, featuring nothing more than his voice and guitar, *Nebraska* presented a tightly woven set of 10 songs focusing on the hardships and dark corners of blue-collar life in America. As the country began to come to grips with Reaganomics, the words of songs like "Used Cars" and "Mansion On The Hill" stuck a chord of sadness brought on by desperate times, while songs like "Nebraska" and "Johnny 99" coldly showed the extremes such hard conditions could drive a man. *Nebraska* has gone on to become an artistic touchstone for many singer-songwriters, so the idea of a tribute album with many of the inspired paying homage to this album is nearly a stroke of genius, something record labels are not known for these days.

The result of this endeavor is *Badlands: A Tribute to Bruce Springsteen's Nebraska*, and while

all the songs off the classic album are represented here, with a couple more Bruce gems to round out the pack, a great deal of the album is lacking the inspired power, the original possesses. True, it is unfair to compare any artist to a piece of work like *Nebraska*, whose mystique has grown over the years to nearly mythic proportions, but with names like Chrissie Hynde (from the Pretenders), Los Lobos and Johnny Cash gracing these tunes, a little more than what's here can honestly be expected.

There are many beautiful, inspired moments in *Badlands* that make this a worthy tribute. Neo-folkie Dar Williams delivers "State Trooper," a story of the bad son chased by his badge-wearing brother, with a plain and simple delivery, letting the beauty of her voice do all the work. Deana Carter's treatment of "State Trooper" not only perfectly captures the paranoia and danger of this song, but pleasantly surprises any listener who had her written as a generic Nashville pretty face. Son Volt's delivery of "Open All Night"

is notable not only because it is the first sign of this great band in a long time, but a l s o because they truly make the track their own, with a laid back

Various Artists
Badlands: A Tribute to Bruce Springsteen's Nebraska
★ ★

approach to the rockably tune. Ben Harper's rendition of "My Father's House" can remind anyone why he is frighteningly talented. With his subtle breathy voice and tasteful slide guitar, it only makes one wish Harper would drop the funk and silliness of his latest work and return to his former glory. Finally comes the husband and wife duo of Aimee Mann and Michael Penn, which is highlighted by the interesting interplay of their voices and by the subtle sonic touches in the back ground.

The lack of inspiration on a handful of tracks is enough to pull down these standout numbers. Hank Williams III's faux-bluegrass/country playing of "Atlantic City," while a true attempt to place his personal mark on the song, ends up being little more than grating on the nerves. "Mansion on the Hill," delivered by Crooked Fingers (headed by former Archers of Loaf frontman Eric Bachmann), sounds like nothing more than a bad Bruce impersonation over Casio keyboard samples, and songs by Los Lobos and Ani DiFranco just suffer from a lack of energy expected from these artists.

Too often the artist featured here just seems in awe of the songs and afraid to truly make them their own. Is it fair to judge these artists as they try to tackle recreating one of the most mystifyingly great albums ever? Um... yep, and they just don't completely pull it off. If you own *Nebraska*, pull it down off the shelf, give it a listen on some long lonely night, and maybe if you're inspired go out and check out this homage. If you don't... what are you doing to yourself?!?! Go grab a copy and find out what your'e missing... oh and don't bother with *Badlands*.

IMAGE FROM WWW.IFCD.COM



DREAMS OF A REQUIEM



Zack Smith
Senior Staff Writer

"It's like I have a shotgun in my mouth, and my finger's on the trigger, and I like the taste of gun metal." Actor Robert Downey, Jr., describing his addiction to drugs.

"Requiem for a Dream" is a film that understands the way Downey feels. If it had been made when he was a child, he might not face the problems he does today. "Requiem for a Dream" is quite possibly the best and most effective anti-drug movie ever made, simply because it understands the true nature of addiction and what it is like to crave something that you know can kill you. It is the kind of film that you watch half-transted, half-terrified, with your hands slightly in front of your eyes because you can't watch what's happening, but at the same time you can't look away. It is one of the best films of the year.

"Requiem for a Dream" takes place over the course of three seasons, labeled "Summer," "Fall" and "Winter." "Spring" never shows up, and we gradually realize that it must have come and gone a long time ago. In Brooklyn, along Brighton Beach and Coney Island, four people are living lives that are about to spin out of control. Harry Goldfarb (Robert Downey) and his friend Tyrone Love (Marlon Wayans) have a fairly good time indulging coke and heroin, occasionally hitting Harry's mother

Sara (Ellen Burstyn) up for cash. This process consists of a) Harry going over to Sara's and taking her TV (as the movie opens, she's got it chained to the radiator to stop him from taking it), b) Harry pawing the TV for cash, c) Sara buying the TV back a few hours later and d) the process repeating itself.

This is a fairly apt metaphor for their lives. Harry actually lives fairly well; he has a nice apartment, and a beautiful girlfriend, Marion (Jennifer Connelly), who's as addicted as he is. Harry, Marion and Tyrone have some mild control over their addictions; they're able to function to some extent, and haven't yet fallen into the category of "junkies," people rendered psychotic from their need for chemicals. As it stands, they're in a position to pull off some high-profile coke deals, enabling them to get the "good stuff": a pound of pure, uncut heroin. Sara's addictions, meanwhile, are limited to chocolates and TV, where she incessantly watches a game show/info-mercial whose host (Christopher McDonald) chants incessantly about "winners" and his amazing diet plan.

Things quickly go from bad to worse to even worse to worst of all. Harry, Tyrone and Marion make a great deal of money (Harry even buys Sara an elaborate new TV), but their sources for drugs are disappearing fast. Sara, meanwhile, gets a phone solicitation that gets her on a wait list to be on the TV show,

She doesn't know when she'll be on, but when she does, wouldn't it be great if she could wear that beautiful red dress from years ago that doesn't fit her anymore? And wouldn't it you know, if her neighbor knows where she can get some effective diet pills...

Decay quickly sets in. Harry has no idea where to get more drugs, and ignores a nasty rash on his arm from where he's been injecting. Tyrone is aware something's wrong, but keeps holding out to the promise of the "big score." Marion is by now so dependent that she's reduced to sleeping with a sleazy psychiatrist (Sean Gullette from "PT") for extra money, and is soon

hardly distinguishable from a hooker. Sara's crash diet enables her to fit into her dress but keeps going as her mind succumbs to hallucinations, including one where her refrigerator comes after her. At this point, you may be wondering if there's a happy ending to all this. There isn't.

"Requiem for a Dream" is the second film from "PT" writer director Darren Aronofsky, and it continues that film's use of innovative photography and editing: there are split screens, slow motion, fast motion, montages, slick cuts and virtually every other camera trick in the book. This proves to be a very

effective way of capturing the essence of the film's base, a novel by "Last Exit to Brooklyn" author Hubert Selby, Jr. (who co-adapted the screenplay). Aronofsky's direction helps to put us into the mindset of these addicts, and the way the world feels for them. Without drugs, the world is grim, oppressive and overwhelming; with them, life is bearable. The actors also do an excellent job capturing this attitude, especially Leto (who's been very good in small roles in other independent features, and may finally break out as a leading man here) and Burstyn in what is probably the most heart-breaking and fearless performance committed to celluloid this year.

"Requiem for a Dream" is not an easy film to watch. If anything, it's the very definition of "anti-commercial." But it's also incredibly involving, drawing the viewer into the excitement and thrills of being high and the crushing pain and degradation of coming down. This isn't a drug movie about people who realize they have a problem and need to get help. It's about people for whom the problem has become a way of life and the only way a life like that can end.

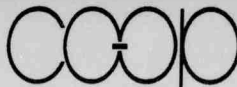
IMAGE FROM WWW.YAKOO.COM

Requiem for a Dream

★★★★

Director:
Darren Aronofsky

Starring:
Jared Leto
Jennifer Connelly
Marlon Wayans



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ROB

Continued from Page 10

Olanrewaju has teamed up in the post with Moody and Christen Greene to block a handful of shots.

Pack opponents are shooting a meager 35 percent this season, compared to the almost 45 percent that Tech opponents are shooting.

"We really have stepped it up on defense," Yow said. "I can't say enough about the level we have stepped it up to in spite of some adversity."

The final reason that the Pack has been able to win in the early going when they could have lost — and probably had a legitimate excuse for losing — is glaringly obvious: Coach Yow.

She is the fifth winningest coach in NCAA women's basketball history, just six wins shy of 600. She knows how to win under pressure and amid conflict.

When she heard three starters could miss as many as two months she wasn't thrilled, but she was composed — the same way her players have been through six games.

"I have confidence in our players' ability to respond," she said, when news of Simpson's and Chomes' injuries broke. And she's maintained that attitude throughout.

So, as Tech goes for its third consecutive win over State, my money will be on the home team. The Jackets may have four double-digit scorers, an All-American candidate and a veteran coach. But I'll take Yow and the Pack at Reynolds in most games, especially when the Pack can force turnovers, rebound, and, most of the time, score.

Rob Godfrey can be reached at 515-2411 or diewhirlie@aol.com. His columns appear every Wednesday.

SOLT

Continued from Page 10

"I think it means a lot to the younger guys on the team to have the support of the seniors. I can't take any credit for myself, because our whole senior class is just very influential."

Despite the coaching transition, Solt has not missed a step this year. Mainly a freestyle swimmer, Solt has led the Wolfpack in the 50-yard freestyle and 100-yard freestyle in addition to swimming the freestyle leg of the medley relays.

"The 50 free is by far my best event," said Solt. "It's the event I qualified for trials in, and I

guess I've always preferred the shorter events."

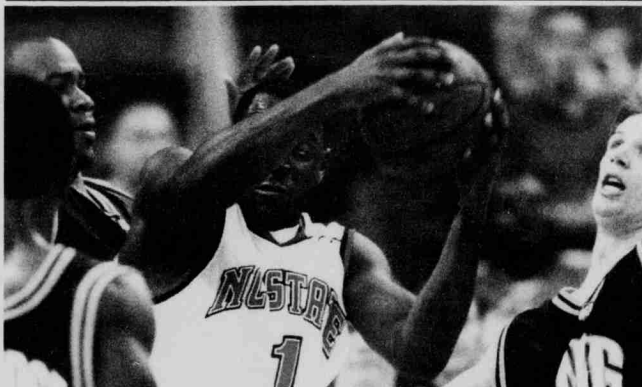
Heading into last weekend's Georgia Invitational, Solt had won every 50 free in which he had competed. At the meet, which featured the toughest competition the Pack has faced to date, Solt finished third by swimming a yearly best time of 20.44 seconds in the finals. His career best is a 20.33.

"I don't really set place goals for myself," said Solt. "Timewise, I'd like to go 19.7 in the 50 free and 44.5 in the 100, whatever place that gets me would be great."

Heading into the spring portion of the schedule, Solt and the Pack will have the next month to prepare for what should be a challenging ACC season. After the season ends,

Solt is prepared to evaluate how he will continue his swimming career.

"I know Braden is thinking about training for [the 2004 Olympics], but I'm not sure yet," said Solt. "Right now, I'm just focused on trying to have a great season and a strong finish for my career."



Damien Wilkins returned from an ankle injury Tuesday but was held scoreless by the Spartans. Wilkins had two rebounds and two assists.

Attendance was 11,127 at the Entertainment and Sports Arena.

Anthony Grundy was N.C. State's leading scorer with 24 points. Kenny Inge had 22 points and 10 rebounds.

Marcus Melvin only played five minutes for State Tuesday night, his lowest total of the season. Scooter Sherrill only saw three minutes of action against the Spartans, also a season low.

N.C. State is now 3-0 in program history against UNCG. The other two wins came in 1993.

With the win, the Wolfpack improved to 5-2 on the year. UNCG fell to 2-4.

UNCG

Continued from Page 10

Kelley, who netted 12, State's inside dominance was obvious as it attempted 29 free throws to UNCG's eight.

A three-point basket by Miller with 15:05 left in the first half gave State an early 9-8 lead. Then, a series of turnovers and poor shooting began to plague the Pack.

UNCG took advantage of the State miscues, seizing a 15-11 lead. The crowd of 11,127 was energized when Wilkins entered the game for the first time. The Spartans continued to outplay the Pack, however, building their lead to as many as 14 points on a three-point basket with

just under five minutes left in the half.

But Kelley came down the court on the next possession and managed to throw in a fade away hook shot while being fouled. After another defensive stop by State, Kelley found the ball in his hands once again, made a powerful move to the basket and converted his second consecutive three-point play.

The Pack drew closer and closer with a wide variety of shots, including a monster jam by Inge with 2:15 left in the half.

On the final play of the half, Grundy nailed a three-pointer that completed a 20-4 run and sent the Pack into the locker room up 40-38.

"In fact, during the 20-4 run that we had in our favor during the first half, that is probably as hard as we've played on defense all year long," said Sendek. "So it

wasn't so much a function of us being let down or having a letdown. It was saying that this team [UNCG] is running a motion offense that has really, as many as five perimeter players at one time executing it, and I think it was very difficult for us to come up with stops."

As the second half began, State appeared poised to take over the game when Grundy hit a three-pointer to give the Pack a five-point lead.

UNCG weathered the storm, however, and went on a run of its own. Guard Ronnie Taylor swished a floater in the lane to put the Spartans up 63-56.

The Pack clawed even again, and the game remained close for the duration. Neither side could seize control as the clock wound down to the final, frantic minutes. With 1:05 left, Miller fouled

Nathan Jameson, who converted both foul shots to put the Spartans ahead 74-72.

On the ensuing possession, Grundy leaned in and hit a sprawling three-pointer that put State back on top by one with 42 seconds remaining.

A driving layup by Eldridge gave UNCG the lead with 17 seconds to play. That set the stage for Grundy's dramatic game-winner.

"I knew time was running out, and I was just trying to get it up," Grundy said. "I was really trying to get the foul, but it went in."

Miller put some perspective on the tight game and the way it ended.

"I don't think this was a step back for us," he said. "We'd be feeling a lot worse if that last shot hadn't gone in."

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Pack fights off UNCG — barely

◆ Anthony Grundy hit a buzzer beater as State avoided an embarrassing loss.

Justin Sellers and Jerry Moore
Staff Writers

It took a last-second put-back by Anthony Grundy for N.C. State to overcome UNC-Greensboro 77-76 Tuesday night at the Entertainment and Sports Arena.

The Wolfpack (5-2) trailed the pesky Spartans (2-4) by one with 17 seconds remaining. Damien Wilkins, playing in his first game since spraining his ankle Nov. 24, launched an off-balance three-

point attempt with time running out. The shot fell off the rim to Grundy, who grabbed the rebound and hit a one-handed baseline hook at the buzzer.

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the right time and put the ball in the basket for us." Grundy, who led all scorers with 24 points, talked about the final play. "Damien has made big shots like that

before, so I don't think anyone minded it being in his hands," he said. "The time was running down, I crashed the boards and the ball just bounced my way."

Archie Miller, who scored nine, was impressed with Grundy's performance. "He was making big shots for us all night," Miller said. "Obviously the one at the end was the biggest, but he took over the game with a couple minutes left to go."

Over the game, the Spartans shot a blazing 56.1 percent and connected on 6-of-8 three-pointers. "I thought they played an outstanding basketball game," Senek said. "We

couldn't stop them from scoring. Their execution was as good as I've seen in a long time. They finished the possessions by making the shot."

UNCG's Jay Joseph and Courtney Eldridge routinely drove into the lane for layups, scoring 21 and 13, respectively. David Schuck added 17 before fouling out late in the contest.

"That might have been the best game UNCG has played," Wilkins said. "Plus, we were lackadaisical and they were playing to win."

The Pack countered with big men Kenny Inge, who scored 22, and Ron



Damien Wilkins returned Tuesday.

See UNCG, Page 9

Pack opens ACC season

N.C. State has a four-game winning streak as it hosts Tech

Rob Godfrey
Assistant Sports Editor

"Let's dance," the Georgia Tech women's basketball team theme for 2000-01, speaks to the Yellow Jackets' desire to return to the NCAA Tournament for the first time since 1993.

And as the bunch, led by 17-year coaching veteran Agnus Bernato, waltzes into Reynolds Coliseum tonight, it will shoot for a win that would impress any member of the NCAA Tournament selection committee.

Tech (3-1) split the regular-season series with the Wolfpack (5-1) a year ago. Then, in the ACC quarterfinals, sixth-seeded Tech upset third-seeded State 71-62, less than two weeks after trouncing the Pack 69-52 at Reynolds. Pack head coach Kay Yow remembers the sting of both losses but said that her team's focus has remained the same since opening practice. Additionally, Yow hasn't lost three straight games to Tech in her 25-year coaching career.

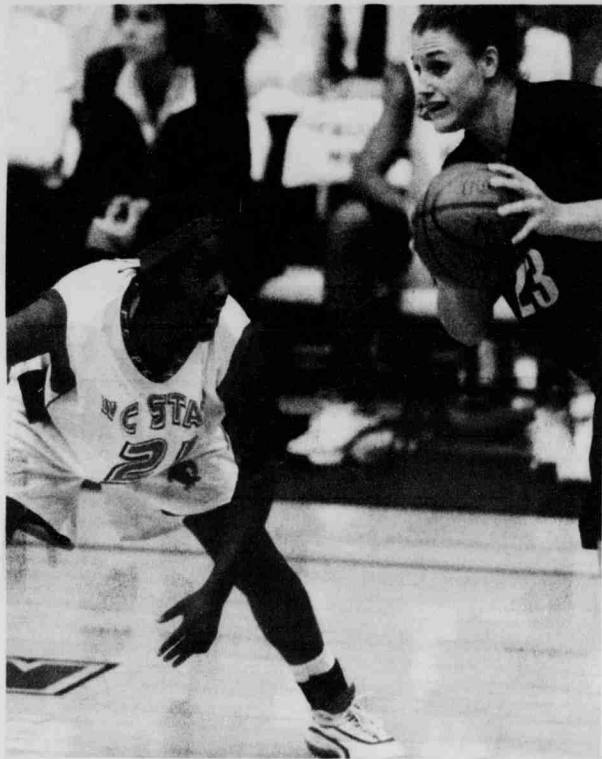
"Just like we have all season, we are trying to focus on our system," Yow said. "We want to execute the best way we can in our game against Georgia Tech. If we do that, we will be fine all season."

On the backs of 10 players, thanks to an injury-depleted roster, the Pack has managed five wins on the season, most recently a 55-48 victory over South Carolina. In the USC game, Tynesha Lewis led all scorers with 21 points, led her team in rebounds with six and collected four assists.

Carisse Moody dropped in 11 points vs. USC and is tied with Lewis for first place in team scoring (13.5 points per game).

"We have been really pleased with the way all of our players have stepped up this season," Yow said. "And Tynesha [Lewis] and Carisse [Moody] are no different. They have been scoring a lot of points for us and allowed us to lean on them offensively."

Outside Lewis and Moody, however, offensive production has hampered the team. From three-point range, State is



Daphne Hutcherson and N.C. State take on 3-1 Georgia Tech tonight in their ACC opener.

DIANA WILSON/STAFF

shooting less than 25 percent. Defense is where the Pack is picking up offensive slack, Yow said. And against Tech, as it has been in all five previous wins, defense could be the difference.

"We haven't been a scoring machine," Yow said. "We've been winning with our defense. It really is going to be important that we have a great defensive game [vs. Tech]."

The Jackets have played four games this season. As a team, Tech's shooting percentage is .445, but its opponents are shooting a comparable .442. Most recently, Tech lost to Mississippi State 86-66.

Junior guard Milli Martinez leads Tech in scoring with 16.7 points. She is one of four starters on

Bernato's roster who average double figures; the others are Neisha Butler (15.0 PPG), Tamika Boatner (14.0 PPG) and Nina Barlin (13.7 PPG).

Butler scorched State in two games she played her freshman season for 41 points. But she went down last season with a torn anterior cruciate ligament in a Nov. 30, 1999, game vs. State. Yow anticipates a great game for Butler but doesn't see her team focusing too much on one player.

"Neisha [Butler] is a great player," Yow said. "We will pay attention to her because she can score, but if we pay too much attention to one player, another one will step up and make us pay."

State overcomes injuries

A whirlwind of injuries befell N.C. State women's basketball as the season opened.

With Terah James already sidelined by a torn anterior cruciate ligament, Amy Simpson missed three weeks strengthening her knee after arthroscopic surgery and Kayla Chones is still out with a bum quad in an off-court accident.



Rob Godfrey

But the Pack weathered what could have been a disastrous turn of events, winning five of its first six games.

A Whayne Tournament title over Thanksgiving and a come-from-behind win over South Carolina two days ago indicate that when this team is at full strength, it will be, well, a lot like most of 25-year coaching veteran Kay Yow's teams — experienced, gritty and resilient. Heading into tonight's Atlantic Coast Conference opener vs. Georgia Tech, Amy Simpson will be back for the second game this season and the squad looks ready to challenge for a share of the conference championship.

So what have been the key factors that have contributed to the Pack's solid start to the season?

Tynesha Lewis and Carisse Moody's offense has been one factor. Either Lewis or Moody has been the high-scorer in each of the Pack's first six games.

Lewis netted 21 points Monday night vs. USC, hitting the go-ahead 3-pointer with 1:58 to left in the game, while Moody poured in 17 points vs. Oregon, a 50-47 Pack loss. The pair share the team lead in points-per-game with 13.5.

Team defense is another factor in — and perhaps the reason for — State's early season wins.

Suffocating pressure led to 21 steals in the season opener against Elon and 18 steals in the USC game. Lewis, Daphne Hutcherson and Adela Olanrewaju each have 10 steals apiece in the first six games. And

See ROB, Page 9

All-American Greg Solt leading young Wolfpack swimmers

◆ Senior Greg Solt has been a leader for the Wolfpack in a year of transition.

Steve Thompson
Staff Writer

During his time spent at Northampton High School in Nazareth, Pa., swimming was simply a way for Greg Solt to pass the winter months.

Solt began swimming at an early age in an attempt to emulate his older sister, but the sport never totally dominated his athletic landscape. In high school, Solt played football, baseball

and track in addition to starring in swimming.

"Pretty much, swimming was just something I did for fun," said Solt. "All the way up to college, I played a myriad of different sports."

Since entering N.C. State and directing his attention solely to swimming, Solt has steadily improved into one of the top freestyle swimmers in the nation.

Following a strong performance at the NCAA Championships as a sophomore for which he was named to the All-America team, Solt returned as one of State's better swimmers. His junior season culminated in an

Atlantic Coast Conference championship, a strong performance at the NCAA Championships and a trip to Indianapolis for the U.S. Olympic Trials.

"Going up to the NCAA [Championships] the past two years has just been great," said Solt. "Going there with my medley relay team and finishing seventh in the tournament, that had to take the cake."

Unfortunately for Solt, two All-Americans, Valter Magnusson and Jared Proto, have departed from last year's 200-yard medley team, leaving only Solt and teammate Braden Holloway. They were not the only

swimmers to leave the program.

Following the resignation of head coach Scott Hammond, many swimmers off last year's third-place ACC team left the program. Thus, Solt is one of the few experienced swimmers left to help the younger swimmers and the new coaching staff prepare for the rigorous ACC season.

"We're pretty much short-staffed right now," said Solt about this year's team. "I think what we're going to try to do is to really get behind each other and just try to perform as well as we possibly can."

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Greg Solt (bottom right) achieved All-America status with his three teammates in the 200 medley relay.

TECHNICAL FILE PHOTO