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Friday

February 9, 2001

TECHNICIAN

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NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1920

Today	
Hi	68
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Tomorrow	
Hi	60
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'Day at the Capitol' planned for students

◆ The Association of Student Governments is sponsoring a trip to the legislature for students to push for several key issues.

Ayren Jackson
Senior Staff Reporter

According to the members of the N.C. State student government, "its primary purpose is to advocate the interests of the student body to both the administration and to other groups on and off campus." This goal will come to life when NCSU students attend the Students' Day at the Capitol, sponsored by the Association of Student Governments, in downtown Raleigh on Feb. 20.

Through this event, ideas will be shared, changes will be addressed, critical topics will be discussed, and most

importantly, all NCSU students will have the opportunity to attend.

All 16 colleges in the UNC system will be represented at this event. They will meet with the General Assembly to discuss various topics related to current university issues. Over 1000 students from each university are expected to be in attendance.

"Senators and representatives of the General Assembly are looking forward to N.C. State's presence at this important event," said Charles Lawley, NCSU's student government chief of operations.

The Student Government along with students, staff and faculty of the NCSU community will go to the Capitol in hopes of addressing three key issues.

First, the Student Government will assure their support of the Board of Governors' proposal for need-based financial aid. Second, they will back their support for the Board of

Governors' proposal for faculty salary increases.

"With the recent tuition increase, we as students have done our part — now it is time for the state to do its part," said Natalie Duggins, special assistant to the student body president.

Finally, they plan to ask the legislative branch of the General Assembly to pass a student vote on the Board of Governors.

"Students are crucial in funding the university, and because of this, it is very important to have a student representative (one of the SGA Presidents) to voice the thoughts and ideas of the student body," said Duggins.

Currently, there is no student vote; however, this vote would ultimately allow students more input concerning some of the Board of Governors' decisions.

For everyone interested in attending this important event, a shuttle is sched-

uled to leave Centennial Campus at 12:30 p.m. next Tuesday, Feb. 20. The rally will begin at 1 p.m. and take place in the front of the Halifax Mall downtown.

Speakers scheduled to be in attendance at the event include the UNC System President Molly Broad and Board of Governors Chairman Ben Ruffin, along with Student Body Presidents from the different schools present.

Upon arrival at the Halifax Mall, students will be divided into groups. These groups will attend the various important session meetings in which they can discuss with the General Assembly the issues of the campus focusing on three key areas of interest.

Everyone will be invited to have lunch with the Legislature and discuss further topics and ideas. Students will get a first-hand glimpse of how the General Assembly works while also

making their voices heard to lawmakers.

"Your message is important, and if no one else can see, the only thing you can do is repeat your message," said SGA President Andrew Payne.

The rally will conclude with an ice cream social. The event is free and open to all students.

"Students who do attend will probably never forget the experience — they are ultimately doing something very big for the future of all NC State University students," said Lawley. "This is a great way to impact the university in a positive way."

This Saturday, Feb. 10, at 12 p.m., the Student Senate will hold an information session in the Student Senate Chambers of the Witherspoon Student Center for all students interested in attending this event.

Councilman to hold office hours

◆ Benson Kirkman will be available to discuss campus and city issues with students starting next Monday.

Spaine Stephens
News Editor

Raleigh City Councilman Benson Kirkman, who authored the controversial nuisance party ordinance of last summer, will hold office hours on N.C. State's campus starting Monday, Feb. 12. Kirkman and Student Body President Harold Pettigrew collaborated on the effort to enable students to voice their concerns about NCSU and Raleigh issues.

Students interested in talking with Kirkman may call the Student Government at 515-2797 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. to make an appointment.

"This will allow students to directly talk to him about issues, like the nuisance party ordinance," said Pettigrew, who added that the office hours would build a closer relationship between students and the City Council.

The nuisance party ordinance caused quite a commotion last fall when it declared that any party deemed a nuisance by police could result in the arrest of participants. The ordinance enacted a "zero-tolerance" approach to the parties and said that "certain practices that are lawful in other jurisdictions may not be allowed," according to a story in the Aug. 21, 2000

"Technician."

The initial plans for the office hours stemmed from a conversation between Pettigrew and Kirkman about the nuisance party ordinance, which gave Kirkman a notorious reputation with some students.

"Some folks think I'm the enemy of the students," said Kirkman.

Kirkman said former student body president Raj Mirchandani brought up the possibility of Kirkman having office hours last year, but that positive reinforcement "didn't go beyond [Mirchandani]."

"The City Council affects us citywide," said Pettigrew. "[Kirkman] has been receptive in our wanting to increase our role [in citywide issues]."

Kirkman said students may not fully understand the privileges and benefits of being a citizen of Raleigh, and that "you may not always be comfortable seeking out help you need."

He wants to strengthen his contact with students, as there is currently not a solid link between representatives and students.

"I want to serve as a conduit for resources that the city has to offer," he said.

Kirkman said the tendency is for complaints to be the main response from constituents, and that the idea within the City Council is to look at those complaints as motivation to urge employees to work harder.

When he comes onto campus,



Charles Moreland currently serves as vice chancellor for research and graduate studies and interim provost.

Mr. Interim

◆ Charles Moreland is N.C. State's answer when important positions are vacated.

Jimmy Ryals
News Editor

Charles Moreland is unofficially the only athletics director in N.C. State history to go undefeated in football during his tenure.

The 4-0 record the N.C. State football team garnered during Moreland's one-month tenure as interim athletics director last fall did not lead to a national title; it did, however, give him something to "rib" new Athletics Director Lee Fowler about when Fowler joined NCSU.

"I'm 4-0 as athletics director," Moreland said. "I tell [Fowler] that I was 4-0 and he was 3-4. No, actually, he was 4-4."

Since Chancellor Marvyn Anne Fox joined NCSU two years ago, Moreland has been

the answer when positions have opened up in the highest reaches of the university administration. Has a provost unexpectedly left to become a university president in the midwest? Talk to Charles Moreland. Is a temp athletics director needed to step in for a month or so? Get Charles Moreland on line one.

Moreland has been athletics director once and provost twice. At most universities, one would need split personalities to spend time heading up both the athletic and academic sides of the institution. And conflicted those personalities would be, indeed.

At NCSU, 37 years' experience, a solid foundation in working with the university's many departments and a good working relationship with Chancellor Marvyn Anne Fox make someone suitable for the chief academic and athletic positions, for a short time anyway.

"He is a senior academic officer," Fox said of Moreland. "He has been here many, many years. He knows the institution well."

Moreland sees his strengths similarly. He credits his position as one of the university's executive officers—the others are Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Tom Stafford, Fox, the provost, Vice Chancellor for Finance George Worsley, Associate Vice Chancellor for Public Affairs Lisbeth Pettengill, Chancellor's Assistant for Governmental Relations Mark Fleming, Fowler, University Counsel Mary Beth Kurz, Vice Chancellor for University Advancement Terry Wood and University Secretary Claire Kristofco.

As one of those officers, Moreland comes in contact with a lot of people and a lot of information that goes straight to Fox.

"What's true is that I know a lot of people and I've worked with a lot of these people and so I essentially have already established a working relationship with a lot of different people," Moreland said.

"The other thing is, over the period that Chancellor Fox has been here, I've had a really good working relationship with her," Moreland said. "I think I understand how she wants things done and I work well with her staff.... That makes it pretty easy to do some of these jobs."

Moreland, vice chancellor for research and graduate studies, first served as interim provost from December 1998 through July 1999, during the search that brought Kermit Hall to NCSU.

Moreland briefly took over athletics on Sept. 1, 2000, when Les Robinson left NCSU to become athletics director at The Citadel. He served until Fowler joined the university Oct. 1.

Hall left NCSU for Utah State University in January 2000, clearing the way for Moreland to step into the university's number two position once again. Moreland hopes to hand over the provost's position July 1, but he thinks it more realistic to expect a new provost to be in place by Aug. 15, the beginning of the Fall 2001 semester.

"It would be very helpful for anybody coming in to come in at that time," Moreland said. "If that doesn't happen, we'll just keep doing our job."

See MORELAND Page 3

Libraries establish endowment

◆ The endowment will produce income for the biological sciences.

Diane Cordova
Staff Reporter

Last November Dr. Thoyd Melton, who served for many years as a microbiology professor and Associate Dean of N.C. State's Graduate School, passed away.

Upon Melton's untimely death in November 2000, the Dr. Thoyd Melton Endowment was established by the NCSU Libraries to honor this great champion of the library," said Jennie Davis, the Assistant Director for Scholarly Communication and External Relations of NCSU Libraries.

Dr. Melton enthusiastically and consistently supported the

NCSU Libraries, according to Vice Provost and Director of Libraries Susan K. Nutter. According to Anthony Reevy, NCSU's director of library development, the purpose of the Dr. Thoyd Melton Endowment is to "produce income funding the biological sciences collection."

The Melton Endowment is an "incubator endowment." The basic idea behind an incubator endowment is that the principal, which is used to fulfill the endowment's purpose, is "never touched and [the principal] produces income," said Reevy. The income is then used for funding.

According to Reevy, incubator endowments require a minimum of \$1,000, whereas standard library endowments require a minimum of \$15,000.

As a well-known scientist, Dr. Melton was "known for attracting minority students to the sci-

ences," said Reevy.

Dr. Melton helped attract minority students to the sciences through the Bioscience Research Initiative for Doctoral Graduate Education (BRIDGE) program.

He directed NCSU's efforts to set up and secure financial support for the BRIDGE program. This program is a cooperative plan that provides doctoral education for students from several historically black colleges and a university with a large Native American enrollment.

"[Dr. Melton] was very enthusiastic about his service to students and teaching," said Dr. Hosni Hassan, the head of microbiology. "He was our spokesman for reshaping minority excellence. Everybody misses him here."

Melton was born in Rich Square, North Carolina, on Dec.

See MELTON, Page 3



Thursday's beautiful weather provided an opportunity for (from L to R) Tommy Heritage, Rod Sampson, Justin Elk and Sheldon Lee to pass the time with conversation.

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COUNCIL

Continued from Page 1

he will be equipped with plenty of complaint forms.

There are many concerns students, particularly those not originally from Raleigh or another large city, may be faced with and not know exactly how to handle.

"Students may feel more comfortable talking to me than, say, the police chief," he said.

Kirkman expects to hear about the nuisance party ordinance from students, but he also anticipates hearing about parking problems and any other concerns students may have. He said students have contacted him in the past for many different reasons; he once received a call from a student who feared that some trees in Pullen Park were about to be cut down.

"I may not be able to do anything [about a particular concern]," he said, "but students will be respectfully listened to."

Kirkman also stressed the importance of the NCSU presence in Raleigh. He noted specific events like the installation of audible crossing signals and Service Raleigh as events he has been involved with that

have had high student input.

"Service Raleigh builds [public relations] with businesses and with older residents that have great anxiety about the student population," he said. "That's the image of N.C. State that I know and believe in and love to brag about."

Student Government's initiation of the liaison between NCSU and the City Council is an additional step to having an enhanced presence in the community. It has also implemented other programs that have enabled students to play a larger role in Raleigh.

Pettigrew said students gained a more prominent position within the city with the voter registration drives last semester.

"In future City Council elections, we will have a presence in determining who the City Council members will be for this area," said Pettigrew.

Kirkman, a third generation alumnus of NCSU, is looking forward to speaking with students. He wants to start off "really as an ombudsman," initiating the interaction with Student Government. He then plans to "open the door wider to the student body, faculty and staff. I want to make myself accessible through that format."

MORELAND

Continued from Page 1

The second time around as provost has been much busier than the first for Moreland. That increase in activity is a result of a wealth of new projects begun under the Compact Planning Process and of Fox's leadership. Through the provost's office, tuition increase money has gone to finance improvements to NCSU's honors programs, diversity programs and undergraduate research.

"There are just many more activities going which are very important," Moreland said. "Therefore, it takes more work to get all those coordinated, which is one of my jobs."

Moreland's month in the athletics department was more or less a lark.

"I had a great time," he said. "What was really fun about it was that we were in the beginning of a new football program and, even though we had a lot of very close games, we won them all. Therefore, it was a very exciting time."

Moreland joined NCSU's faculty in 1964; he had recently finished his doctoral work at the University of Florida. At that

time, NCSU had only had its College of Physical and Mathematical Sciences for two years and humanities and management colleges were still years away. The university was working to become a "comprehensive university," in Moreland's words.

"Essentially what was true [was] you were called a university," Moreland said. "But I would say that a university really has to be more complete than we were then, and we are now."

Being a part of the changes that have taken place since the 1960s at NCSU was part of what attracted Moreland.

"I thought it was a real opportunity to be a part of that growth and to help build the university," he said. "I came because I liked to teach and I also liked to do research."

Administration came on rather suddenly for Moreland. In December 1993, he became vice chancellor for research, outreach and extension after serving as associate vice chancellor for research for two years.

"I absolutely had zero idea that I would ever end up as an administrator or that I would ever end up as the interim provost or the vice chancellor for research," he said. "I find it

to be unbelievably rewarding that that's happened."

Moreland misses research and teaching, but the two fell by the wayside after his 1993 elevation. After becoming an administrator, Moreland did not believe he could devote the time to either of the other two duties necessary to be good at them.

"After 28 years of teaching and research, I was ready for a change. And I found that change to be very exciting."

Moreland has given some thought to retiring; he has a wife, three children and three grandchildren. One of the great thrills of his research career was publishing research with his oldest son, who received his doctorate in chemical engineering from Virginia Tech.

But serious thought on retirement must wait. There is still work to be done for NCSU's research interests and graduate programs.

And there is that other position Moreland's holding to consider.

"Once we get a new provost and some other things are done, I'll probably be thinking about [retirement] more seriously."

MELTON

Continued from Page 1

4, 1947. In 1970, he graduated from N.C. Central University. He received his doctorate in microbial genetics from Johns Hopkins University in 1976.

He completed a postdoctoral fellowship at N.C. State. While at N.C. State, Melton taught general microbiology, microbial biotechnology and microbial genetics.

He accepted the position of associate vice chancellor and dean of graduate studies at N.C. A & T in Greensboro in 1998.

In 1999, the American Society for Microbiology awarded Melton with the William A. Hinton Research Training Award for his contribution toward the development of research training of underrepresented minorities in microbiology.

Contributions to the Dr. Thoyd Melton Endowment may be sent to: Friends of the Library, Campus Box 7111, Raleigh, NC 27695-7111. Checks should be written to Friends of the Library and should indicate that the donation is for the Melton Endowment.



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TECHNICIAN'S VIEW

Civil servant?

WHY IS THE AUTHOR OF THE NUISANCE ORDINANCE TRYING TO BE A PART OF NCSU?

Two numbers shaped the first week of N.C. State this school year: 1) zero, as in the anti-Brent Road Nuisance Ordinance (No. 2000-848) and its "zero tolerance" party-pooper policy and 2) 15,000, the approximate number of student signatures signed on a petition of the ordinance.

The man who wrote that ordinance, Councilman Benson Kirkman, who represents the part of Raleigh that includes Brent Road, gained instant notoriety among the student body.

Now, however, he's striving to make much-needed in-roads with the NCSU student body by serving as a liaison between the university and the Raleigh City Council.

Kirkman says he wants to empower students to fully realize their potential as citizens of Raleigh, to understand the benefits, privileges and rights of such citizenship.

He says he's opening himself up to the students to serve in our interest, to fight for us, to listen to us.

More than likely, however, the councilman is serving his own interests. It's not that he wants to help NCSU students as much as he has to now to protect his job. Kirkman is up for re-election this fall and, thanks to what Student Body President Harold Pettigrew estimates to be 100-150 stu-

dent new voter registrations in Wake County - specifically, Kirkman's District D - the councilman realizes he will probably be voted out of office unless he satisfies his constituents, i.e. NCSU.

Kirkman's motives are political, not passionate; functioning as the university's council liaison is a matter of his career, not his conscience.

There's no doubt Kirkman is looking to mend fences and boost relations with the university. But who's kidding who? Political changes of heart come about one way: changes of office.

Ultimately, those in power have two options: to serve the interests of their constituents or to serve their own interests. With Ordinance No. 2000-848, Councilman Kirkman did not serve in the interests of his hundreds of N.C. State constituents. He should be applauded for his newfound contrition, but warily so.

Kirkman can be reached through appointments arranged by calling Student Government at 515-2797 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Still, office hours and legislative powers may help Kirkman repeal laws his constituents find offensive, but it takes a lot more effort to repeal a reputation as the bogyman of the Nuisance Ordinance.



marko 2001

The nature of education



Robert Jallail

STAFF COLUMNIST

Perhaps it is not possible to comprehend one of the greatest mass deceptions of society; however, it is within human ability to recognize the key failure of modern education, the failure to create individuals whose minds haven't been warped by a fallacious value system. And in a twist of irony, education's greatest failures lay in its greatest successes: its "high achievers," its "honors" students. It is their success as educated people that makes honor students so sad because these individuals, by designation, have been the best at accepting education's fallacious value system.

While as students, school teaches lessons in math, literature, science and history, the process of education also imprints a value system on students. Concepts such as grade advancement create the false notion that going through school, and therefore its activities, causes growth and development in a person. Through tests, homework, impressing teachers and memorizing facts, students are able to increase their worth. Under "educational dogma," these activities become synonymous with development of character; therefore, a measure of how good people are at tests, homework, and impressing teachers becomes a measure of character. It is that attempt to assign value to a human character that warps the minds of students. Assigning value means reducing such things as char-

acter, ability and intellect into measurable terms. Once quantifiable, all sorts of arithmetic, adding and subtracting, can be done to human value. Consequently, human value is confined to whatever device "education" can use to measure it. Like a bank account, students can increase their value by repeating education's required tricks with increasing frequency and alacrity. Honor students, because their value is mapped to the best (confined the best) and they are the best hoop-jumpers, are told that they have added to themselves the most, and therefore can achieve whatever they want.

Those who are completely duped by education define themselves by what they do and what they achieve because this is how they are appraised. The highest achievers believe they deserve better treatment and are due certain opportunities and advantages. To violate the order established by education (perform the most tricks, get the biggest prize) is heresy. In addition, someone wholly defined by the education system suffers from egocentrism, for growing as a person is as simple as getting a grade, reading a textbook, completing an assignment. Education's value system combines the belief that one is entitled to something and that there is no limit on what one can gain. The ultimate result of such teachings is a wasted life, one concerned with impressing others and worrying about minuscule things (grades, tests, and other absurd measures), while isolated from more meaningful things in life.

Who is better than the honor student? Who does not believe that the tricks education asks students to perform define value? When one rejects

the rules established by education (perform the trick, get the treat), one rejects its constraints on thinking and action. No longer is college a place where one goes to get a degree to get a job to get money. Indeed, college doesn't provide a job, nor is the attainment of money the ultimate end of anything. The education system says otherwise because it is really an extension of the social, economic and political systems. Education is a tool of these other in-human systems so that they can perpetuate themselves. The completion to "education increases a person's value" is "education increases a person's value to the inhuman social, economic and political systems." Thus, education prepares students' minds for integration into systems that are not fundamental, not natural to human existence.

The artful trickery of these inhuman systems makes people believe that the line from school to college to degree to job to money signifies some development necessary in civilized people. Indeed, slaves and agents to these inhuman systems marvel at their workings and their "rich" history, but like the system themselves, such praise has no meaning or relevance to true human living. "True human living" is indeed an expansive topic, but it is not what administrators, politicians, trends, bosses and economists say or what they make people do. The saddest people are those who think they can, simply because inhuman systems tell them so. Those who can do something great, simply do, and it's no big deal when it happens.

Robert Jallail

evilb0thNCSU@yahoo.com.

Jallail:

C A M P U S F O R U M

FDA worker: Yasinovskaya 'disingenuous at best'

I graduated from N.C. State in 1995, and I occasionally browse the online editions of *Technician* to see what's going on at my alma mater. It is a fairly regular occurrence for me to just shake my head at the poor quality of the writing or the results of the latest Wolfpack basketball game. Despite that, I enjoy reading the opinion page. I can deal with opinion pieces that express opinions that are different from mine, but I have a problem with factual errors. Here are a few from Larissa Yasinovskaya's column (10 Feb. "Bitter is better"): 1. The owner of Searle is Monsanto, not "Monesato." 2. Sucralose is not another name for aspartame. (It is a different artificial sweetener.) 3. Neither is Splenda(r). (Splenda is a trademarked name for sucralose.) In fact, Splenda/sucralose is often marketed as being a "safer" or "more natural" sugar substitute than aspartame, since it is made from sugar (sucrose), does not seem to induce carbohydrate cravings, etc. The columnist might be interested. I found some of Yasinovskaya's statements and implications, especially those about the Food and Drug Administration, to be disingenuous at best. It is true that a significant number of people are killed by prescription drugs every year. However, it is not because FDA carelessly or recklessly approves unsafe products. Many of those deaths result from physician prescribing error, pharmacist error, patient error, etc. The FDA does not approve food additives (or drugs or medical devices or anything else) unless or until an acceptable level of safety is demonstrated by substantial scientific evidence. And the agency is always open to reconsidering approval decisions when substantial and credible scientific (not anecdotal) evidence of a lack of safety comes to light, as has happened in the cases of several prescription drugs in recent years. Note that "safe" doesn't mean safe for everyone in every circumstance. This is why FDA requires a printed warning (phenylethanolamines) on products containing amphetamine. There is an

awful lot of misinformation circulating on the Internet, especially about health topics. In the interest of full disclosure, I should say that I do happen to be an FDA employee. However, I am not writing to you in an official capacity. Lest my comments be construed as official FDA opinions or inside information, let me emphasize that they are not. All of the above factual information is publicly available, and all of the opinions are mine. I am writing as an NCSU alum, a *Technician* reader, a consumer, and a lifelong helper of misinformation.

Decanna Buxick
Class of '95
Materials Science

'Still waiting' for 40 acres

After reading *Technician's* editorial on reparations (106 Feb.), I was compelled to write to you and tell you why I'm still waiting on my 40 acres and a mule. Please, listen up. On 01 Jan. 1863, President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation, freeing the slaves. On the very same day, the Homestead Act of 1862 was enacted. Under this act, for more than 100 years, Congress literally gave away more than 270 million acres of land to more than 2 million white Americans, 160 acres per person or family, free. The stipulation was that they had to "improve" the land for five years, and it would be theirs. Imagine that: 160 acres of land, free! And they didn't even have to be a U.S. citizen, only working on becoming one. This act, the Homestead Act of 1862 was, to my knowledge, never repealed. Around the same time in history, there was another Homestead Act, the Southern Homestead Act of 1866. It too was enacted, granting ex-slaves or freedmen 40 acres, hence, the term "40 acres and a mule" was born. Some ex-slaves did indeed receive a few southern acres, which were eventually returned to the pardoned Confederates and the ex-slaves were evicted from the land. Only three years later, Congress repealed this act. America preferred to keep its slaves as sharecroppers for another 100 years. The rest is history. The U.S. government could give away 160 acres of land — free — to non-cit-

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John Sico

STAFF COLUMNIST

Although the groundhogg from Punxsutawney said otherwise, the warmer weather we've been experiencing is signaling the start of an early spring. The sun is shining, the birds are singing, and it's just been altogether wonderful outside lately. The consequences of this beautiful weather have been people wearing fewer clothes and laying all over any piece of unoccupied grass-covered real estate that they can find on campus. The coming of springtime also brings some kind of phenomenon in the dating scene. As soon as it's warm enough to leave your jacket at home, people miraculously begin pairing off as quickly as possible. Perhaps it's all the newly bared flesh, or the pent-up energy from being stuck inside during winter. Maybe it's just the last chance for a real relationship before the flings of summer begin. Whatever the reason, people seem to find mates almost immediately. But what about those who aren't as quick to discover a better half? As they're still searching, the dating pool becomes ever thinner. The post-winter dating game soon becomes a sort of perverted "Springtime Survivor" in which those who don't meet the expectations are quickly cast out from their social groups in favor of those who are more conducive to meeting the opposite sex faster than they can say, "But I can cook a tortilla from a pile of rice!"

Instead of competing for prizes and comforts like on the television show, the contestants in "Springtime Survivor" compete with each other for affection. What complicates things further is that the affection up for grabs is the affection of other contestants. So, while you're courting that girl in math class, she could

be after your roommate. Or, just when you think you've won the heart of another competitor, a more suited candidate might come along and snatch her up out of your arms. To level the playing field a bit, I propose there be events such as those on the TV show. For those of you unfamiliar with the format of the program, there are organized trials that must be overcome in order to win items and to remain in the group. These competitions are intended to somewhat mimic the hardships faced in the daily life of living in a deserted area. So, following the same lines, the games to be played by contestants in "Springtime Survivor" should imitate courtship practices.

For instance, there could be a driving contest. However, it would not be a race or anything of that sort. The challenge would be to see which competitor could make it from point A to point B while keeping the largest percentage of their arm out of the window and playing music as loudly as they can tolerate. Whoever came out with the highest scores would move onto the next round. In this, the contestants would spend hours trying to look like they just jumped out of bed, and then be paraded in front of a panel of judges. The ones who look the sloppiest would be declared the winners, and the others would be dismissed. The games would go on like this until the numbers of surviving players matched the numbers of potential mates.

Throw in a couple of corporate sponsors, a well-lit stadium and a willing audience, and this could easily be the next hit show. I'll call it "Temptation Island." But then again, that might be a little too ridiculous for even the American television-viewing public to be interested in.

John likes long walks on the beach, candlelit dinners, and writing sappy poetry. Would he write? Tell him at Riseasone@aol.com.

TECHNICIAN

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Rally at the Capito



Harold Pettigrew
GUEST COLUMNIST

It was great seeing the Pack take to the Cavaliers on Wednesday. It's been a while since I've seen the trees in Central Campus decorated with toilet paper and pride in the eyes of all Pack fans after taking a big win.

This semester has been moving very fast as we have cleared the first couple of weeks of classes without any major problems. Where does the time go? The Student Government has been busy during this time working on some major projects that will take place later this semester here at the university as well as in the city of Raleigh.

On Feb. 20, over 1,000 students in the state of North Carolina are going to converge on the capitol to rally and make higher education the state's top priority. These students will come from all over the state, specifically the other fifteen universities in the UNC system. This day will prove to be important not only for students today but students that come after us. Today, it will show that students are passionate about education and we think that it should be the number one priority for state legislators when decisions are being made. As students, we are demanding to be heard and take an active part in the decisions that affect us directly.

The first issue regards the student representative vote on the UNC Board of Governors (BOG). This is the highest decision making body regarding higher

education in the state. The President of the Association of Student Governments (ASG), Andrew Payne, serves as the student member to the Board. He plays an active role in the discussions and decisions made by the BOG, however does not have a vote. A vote is what we want! The ASG President represents over 162,000 students in the state and it is pertinent that his membership on the BOG is equal to that of the rest of the members. The decision, however, is not in the hands of the BOG. That decision lies with the state legislators and that is why it is important that we aggressively lobby to get this all-important vote.

The second issue is the support of faculty salaries being increased. This is just to simply state that as students we want quality faculty members at our universities and we want the UNC system to be able to compete for the top quality professors who will enhance our academic environment. Our support is directed toward the BOG request from the state legislature that faculty salaries be increased.

And the last issue regards need based financial aid. As broke college students, we need all the support that can be given regarding financial aid. We all understand the severity of having more financial aid, especially being in the midst of another \$300 tuition increase for the 2001-2002 school year.

By reading through these issues, I am sure that it is understood that the success of this event is paramount not only for students today but for the students who follow behind us.

In an effort to create a relationship with the City Council, which had not existed in past years with Student

Government, I set up for Benson Kirkman to have office hours on campus as reported today in the *Technician*. The student's role in city politics will dramatically increase in the future mainly due to the success of our Vote 2000 campaign last semester with voter registration and voter participation. This fall, all the city council positions will be up for election and N.C. State students, as a result of the efforts that will take place next year, will affect many of those seats.

Lastly, there are many efforts going on within the university to create a greater commitment to diversity. The kickoff for the diversity trainers program spearheaded by the Office of Diversity and African American Affairs took place this week with tremendous success. Also, a group of students are heading efforts to create a racial climate survey to "access the current status of relations between races and ethnic groups," as stated and supported by our Student Senate this past Wednesday.

Now is the time for everyone to play an active role in what is going on with the university. Many changes are being made and events are taking place. There is going to be a lot of major events taking place this semester to include "Students' Day at the Capitol" on Feb. 20, increased involvement with the city of Raleigh and the City Council, as well as other annual events such as Service Raleigh and Feed Raleigh.

If you are interested in participating in any of these events taking place, email me at shp@ncsu.edu or contact the Student Government Office at 515.2797.

RULE OF THUMB University Golf



The PGA accredited a Professional Golf Management Program at N.C. State to train golf professionals for golf courses nationwide. Graduates of the program will ride in on Go-Karts after, enjoy all-you-can-eat Tastee Freeze and get enough arcade tickets to earn the "Jumbo" level of prizes.

We were going to give a thumbs down to the Tar Heels anyway, but now we have a reason: Franklin Street riots. Students overturned a \$20,000 Honda after rumors spread that a \$50 Gap certificate was on the asphalt underneath.

N.C. State "Helios" team won a design contest and so got its banner taken aboard the Shuttle *Atlantis*. The banner will be signed by the *Atlantis* crew at NASA's estimated cost of \$415 million before it is used to patch a hole in *Mir* and then inexplicably lost en route to Mars.

According to a nationwide survey by Progressive Insurance, 10 percent of married Americans rank their spouse as that which they consider most important to them, 6 percent said their children. But 45 percent of married Americans ranked their cars as most important, including 17 percent who will buy a Valentine's gift for their car.

Of course, anyone who plays the game and gives it their all is a winner on the inside. But, this time, we're actually winners on the outside. I mean, we won't Virginia may be "for lovers," but when they come to ESA, Virginia is for losers.

Seriously, they made Mindy Guadagnino, the victimized owner of that Honda, cry — yes, cry! — on local television. We can excuse the callous, selfish trustafarian arrogance — but a tear is inexcusable.

The school won the right to keep the words "In heaven, there is no beer." That's why we drink it here. And when we're gone from here, all our friends will be drinking "all the beer" in its marching band's repertoire. One stipulation: it's now officially the staggering — not marching — band.

Kirk Cameron stars in an "end times epic" movie, "Left Behind," as a journalist who must help save Post-Second Coming Earth. But do we really want Armageddon to be left in the hands of Mike Seaver? Wouldn't the astute intellect of Alex P. Keaton be just a bit better?

Gaining the worst ratings in eight years, the Super Bowl also shamed itself by denying MVP Ray Lewis, who was tried for murder last year and who pled guilty to obstruction of justice, the right to say "He's going to Disneyland!" What has America come to when an alleged murderer is denied the free speech to push "The Happiest Place on Earth" to millions of children everywhere?

In El Paso, a woman named Abigail Fritz reported that her head expanded to the size of a watermelon after chewing just two pieces of CareFree gum. While the incident has not been scientifically documented, I have seen pictures and she looks a lot better in the "before" shots. The evidence begins to add up. Freelance historians have suggested after forensic research that the Kool-Aid issued to the followers of Jim Jones contained high levels of aspartame. This suggests that Jones used saccharine to sweeten the fatal Kool-Aid. While it is more likely that the tragic deaths of the Jonestown massacre were caused by cyanide poisoning, the practice of using saccharine was certainly not healthy.

Yasnovskaya is right to report that five fatalities were reported in 1999 due to aspartame. But she fails to mention that was also the cause of hundreds of attacks of religious overzealousness and thousands of cases of lost self-esteem. Yasnovskaya correctly mentions many of the 90 symptoms attributed to aspartame such as memory loss, dizziness and heart palpitations. However, she fails to mention some of the more serious symptoms such as walleys, loss of facial hair and a slight raising of the testicles. This column was intended to drive home the point so well introduced by Yasnovskaya: Do not consume products containing aspartame! If you do you are taking risks better saved for Saturday nights. Do not chew sugarless gum; instead use chewing tobacco, and do not drink diet sodas unless you own and know how to operate a saccharine extractor. Aspartame is unhealthy!

Grant Jones Senior English

Shonda Tabb Sophomore History, Africana Studies

Yasnovskaya has hit the nail on the head when it comes to addressing the dangers of aspartame ("Bitter is better," 06 Feb.). Aspartame is the basic ingredient in saccharin and can be found in common products such as the blue and pink sweeteners, diet cola, and sugar-free gum. Alerting the public to the dangers of aspartame is very important to me, as I have personally suffered severely from side effects due to Aspartame ingestion. My symptoms began as spontaneous cold shivers and progressed into a full blown psychological disorder in which I compulsively flushed frozen objects down toilets. However, a lot of people try to discredit my argument because my level of aspartame intake during my illness was exceptionally high (I used Equal as a sweetener for up to eleven Long Island iced teas a day). Therefore I will provide other scientific examples of the dangers of aspartame. A study released in May of 1998 by a group of scientists found that methanol (a key ingredient in aspartame) in small doses caused 43 of 50 common grasshoppers to spontaneously explode when vibrated at or above a frequency of 32,000 Hz. In 1994 an independent research firm discovered that aspartic acid (another key ingredient in aspartame) led to an increase of immortality among wild African baboons including infidelity,

premarital intercourse and self-abuse. In El Paso, a woman named Abigail Fritz reported that her head expanded to the size of a watermelon after chewing just two pieces of CareFree gum. While the incident has not been scientifically documented, I have seen pictures and she looks a lot better in the "before" shots. The evidence begins to add up. Freelance historians have suggested after forensic research that the Kool-Aid issued to the followers of Jim Jones contained high levels of aspartame. This suggests that Jones used saccharine to sweeten the fatal Kool-Aid. While it is more likely that the tragic deaths of the Jonestown massacre were caused by cyanide poisoning, the practice of using saccharine was certainly not healthy.

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Grant Jones Senior English

The cell phone scourge



Kelly Marks
STAFF COLUMNIST

The other day, I walked into the bathroom. Inside, a girl was speaking in a rather loud voice. Since there were two stalls, and one was also occupied by her and her volume, I decided to make use of the other one. As I shut the door I couldn't help but wonder, "who in the world is she talking to? There were only the two of us in the room."

She was definitely talking to someone, and it seemed like someone was talking back. "It sounds like she's on the phone," I thought and then the little light bulb flashed over my head. "Wait a minute, she is on the phone."

Perhaps I'm on my own here, but there are just some places I don't want to be reached. And now that I think of it, there are some places that I don't want to be able to reach others at either. I tend to picture people as I talk to them, imagining that they're doing, thinking, and I want to hear the sound of a commode.

But it's not just that. In this sped-up world, there are fewer times for introspection, for self-reflection, and for just getting the heck away from phones and faxes and Instant Messenger and being

on your own. Do we really want to be accessible 24 hours a day? What is the cost of that sort of availability? I grappled with questions like this, but mainly I just thought, "Cell phones are bad" a lot. I convinced myself that within their little black streamlined shells lurk true evil.

The world must be worried about the scourge that is the cell phone. Surely there are others who would find the bathroom incident just as disturbing as I did. And yet, as I walked around campus the rest of that day, noting the number of people with little black antennae sticking up beside their heads, I began to wonder.

I understand their benefits — the convenience they provide, the sense of security they offer, the quick responses in emergency situations — and I agree that they can be very helpful tools. But like any other tool, they can be misused. A hammer is great for hitting nails, but a bad thing if you aim it at someone's head. Cell phones can be equally misused. It's just a matter of time, when a good invention falls into the wrong hands.

Now, I'm not saying that they're going to bring about total destruction or mass mayhem. I do, however, think that there are social ramifications — beyond the flushing.

Cell phones make people rudier. They interrupt more than just shows; they interrupt our communications with other people, people who are actually standing

right beside us. It's one thing to be put on hold over the phone, it's another thing entirely when it happens in the flesh.

There's something about the instant gratification factor too. We're so used to speed these days, it makes us impatient and greedy. "I want to talk to her now!" In some ways, we're forgetting what it means to wait, to interrupt other people's lives at our convenience, making demands on their time. Sure, they give us this right when they give us their cell number. I just wonder if it makes us needier people, all this constant contact.

And finally, we don't yet know the full effects of using cell phones all day long. I won't say much more in this vein, because then I'll definitely sound like my dad, only that the jury's still out. That, and I can't think of many appliances I'd feel safe about holding up next to my head for long periods of time. I could conclude this in a cheesy manner and say there are no bad cell phones, only bad cell phone users.

I think a more appropriate final message, however, is this: don't take the technology for granted and don't let it become so familiar that you cease to think about it. As with any piece of technology, it's seductive benefits keep you from noticing the cost.

Comments? Questions? Punchy tagline suggestions? Email knmarks@unity.ncsu.edu.

there were about 1,500 people in my high school. By the time I graduated, we were up to 2,500. It was a zoo! All you hear about is how we didn't have money to build new schools or buy new textbooks or repair facilities or this or that. So don't give me a lotta for education. I would rather be taxed and have a lotta for fun.

Jennifer Borchardt Senior Business Management

Forum 'outlandish'

I am writing in response to the preposterous article in the Campus Forum (02 Feb.), "Black History is 'shameless propaganda.'" To say that black Americans do not need Black History Month is outlandish. I do not think the author knows the basis of why Carter G. Woodson started Negro History Week, which later evolved into Black History Month; he wanted to focus attention on black contribution to civilization. Considering the masses would have you to believe that blacks made no contributions, the acknowledgment of black contribution was needed. In fact, for years the masses taught that blacks had no history. For that reason alone the community needs Black History Month; so, yes, all those who characterize themselves as "black" do share the same history and we need to recognize the African proverb "I am because we are." The forum author said, "These actions only serve to shakele Americans." Well, I say this to that brother and anyone else who believes that: your mind is what is shackled. I know I am proud to be an American of African descent and I am proud of our rich heritage, culture, scholarship and, most importantly, his-

FORUM

Continued from Page 4

izens but could not give 40 acres to a people who provided them 200-plus years of free labor. After 200-plus years of inhumane slavery, after 200-plus years of providing hard, free labor, my ancestors got nothing, nothing but 100-plus more years of hate, Black Codes, Jim Crow laws, the KKK, poverty, oppression, segregation, fear and more hate. Enough? I ask you, would black America, no, would America as a whole be a better nation if they had indeed given us the 40 acres, as promised? Right now, I'd take an acre and a chicken. Peace and love my fellow Americans, we are all in this together.

Pamela Hairston

Christianity 'riddled with ... monstrosities'

Finally, Richard Morgan, a Christian, has acknowledged that the past is riddled with examples of Christians who have committed monstrosities. I don't hold any personal grudge towards Christians, but it bothers me how many of *Technician's* staff writers use their columns as opportunities to promote their Christian views (often times the thesis of the article has nothing to do with religion, but it is still thrown in). Don't you see the hypocrisy of what you are spouting: preach tolerance, but judge, criticize, condemn those who don't follow your Christian beliefs. I would suggest that the pedophilic priests, and the missionaries who raped the various American aborigines of their beliefs, have done much more

harm than two people who love each other, but happen to be of the same sex (as an example). I know, your god says it is wrong, but this is a case of increasing the amount of love in the world, while religious-based actions often cause fear, hatred, pain, etc. The irony is that Christians (and many other organized religions) try so hard to sway people to their beliefs, but actually turn them away by taking the "holier than thou," "we are perfect" approach. Although I don't foresee myself becoming a devout Christian in the near future, I can tell you that Morgan has gained respect from me by demonstrating his broader view of the world.

Kelly Duke Graduate student Industrial Engineering

Lottery opposition

I am very much opposed to a lottery in North Carolina. For one reason: everyone says it is for education. I grew up in Florida and went to school there before they passed the lotto and after they passed the lotto. We (the students) were worse off after the lottery went into effect. Why was this the case? Well, someone decided that since we were now getting money for education from the lottery, we didn't need as much of the government money. Every time I go back and visit family down there, the situation seems worse. If you drive by my old high school, you cannot even see the main building because there are about 100 trailers in front of it. I will accept that part of the problem is the large amount of people that are moving into the area. I will not accept the influx of people as a reason for outdated textbooks and buildings in need of repair. When I was a 9th grader,

es muy bien by jackson brown



Sucks man,
school work getting you down?

Not exactly.

Leroy...

Yes dear?

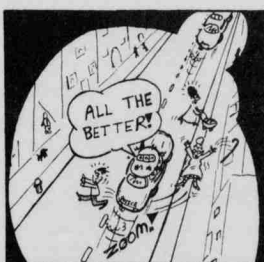
I'm waiting.

I'll be right in...
(...duty calls.)

Back into the trenches!

March on, soldier.

the man by steven f. leboeuf

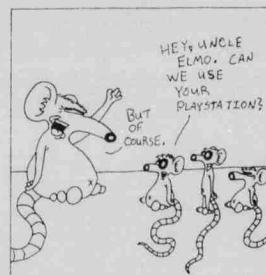


WHAT THE HELL...?

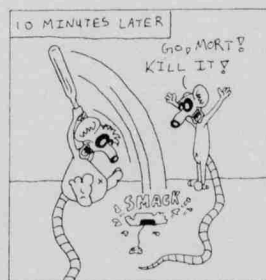
ARE YOU NUTS!
YOU'RE ARRESTING
AN OFFICER!



POLICE

meece by daniel

BUT
OF
COURSE.



GOD, MORT!
KILL IT!



YAH, WE JUST
SAID WE WERE
GOING TO USE IT.

DAN
BALLENGER



YEAH IT'S AN
OUTDATED
PIECE OF
CRAP!

ARE YOU
TALKIN'
ABOUT?



GET OVER
IT, UNCLE
ELMO, AND
JUST GO
GET A
STATION.

7

OUT ON THE BALCONY...

DON'T EVER SCARE ME LIKE THAT AGAIN!

I AM THE MIRA- IM HERE ONE MINUTE-AND GONE THE NEXT.

DAVE COVERLY

MR. BOOP WENT INTO THE KITCHEN AND GETS READY TO ASK THE WAITER IF HE CAN BORROW SOME MILK.

NOW WHERE DO HE GO - HE WAS JUST OUTSIDE A FEW SECONDS AGO?

WE'RE D.D.
 THAT ISN'T
 ME BUT
 HOTTS FOR ME.

NEW WIV
 COV'D. SHE
 SO UGLY
 ME MORE.

DIDN'T I TELL
 YOU SHE'S
 BARE BREASTS THAN
 ME?

WHO ARE YOU
 I DON'T
 CAN GET
 YOUR
 BUNION
 THAN

YES? WHO'S
 MY AUNT
 I'M AUNT AT EACH
 OTHER!

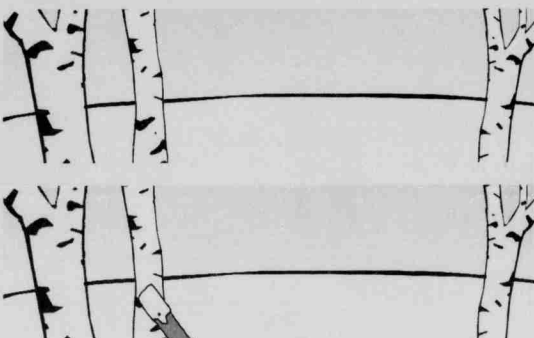
DAN BALLER
 ©

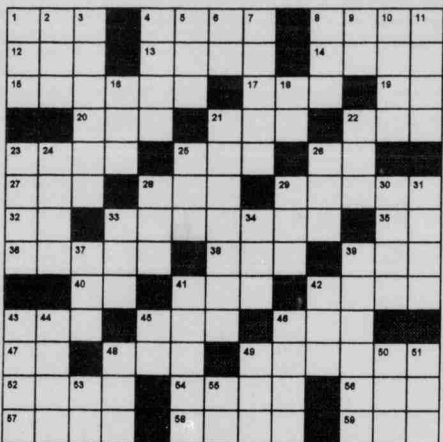
YOU CAN'T LET SOME ONE
 COME BETWEEN YOUR FRIENDSHIP.

I'VE SOMETHING TO SAY TO BOTH
 ABOUT YOU. THEN BE FRIENDS
 AGAIN!

DAN WAS RIGHT.
 I THINK WE CAN
 BOTH
 MAKE
 THAT
 EXCEL
 WOULD
 ANY
 MAKE
 THE
 HOTTS
 FOR
 DAN.

YEARS
 AND
 THE
 FACT
 THAT
 DAN IS
 AN
 IDIOT.





COACH
K
COURT

COME
ON
BACK!
BRING
HOME
A VICTORY!

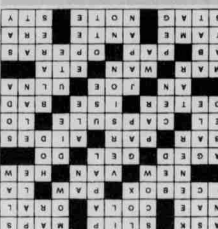
DAN
BALLENGER



ACROSS
1 Inquire
4 Blunder
8 Charts
12 No (Scottish)
13 Soda
14 Verbal
15 Refrigerator
17 Foot of an animal
19 Southern state (abbr.)
20 Current
21 Family vehicle
22 Cut
23 Matured
25 Jelly, for short
26 Perform
27 Stop
28 Even
29 Helpers
32 Raised railway
33 Form of oil
35 and behind
36 Prevent
38 Bay (Japan)
39 Floor
40 Article
41 GI
42 Arm bone

DOWN
1 Black bird
2 Plant pouch
3 Sharper
4 Flat-bottomed boat
5 Smoked salmon
6 Midwest state (abbr.)
7 Pertaining to the pope
8 Cut grass
9 Midwest state (abbr.)
10 Wan
11 Cabbage salad
16 Berth
18 Article
21 Rendition

ANSWERS



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ACC

Continued from Page 10

the 2000 College World Series, Clemson returns five position starters, highlighted by the return of center fielder Patrick Boyd, who was taken by the Pittsburgh Pirates in the fourth round of the amateur draft last year.

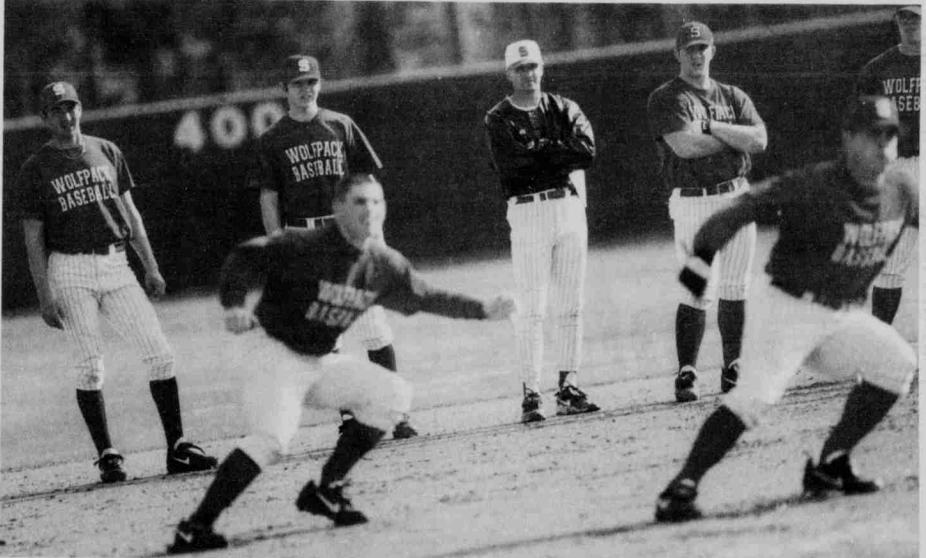
Boyd is a second-team preseason All-American by Baseball America, not to mention being ranked as the third-best senior in the nation by the same publication. In his career, Boyd is a .341 hitter with a .442 on-base percentage and has stolen 49 bases in the past three years.

Picked to finish third in the conference is Florida State, who is also fourth in the nation in the ESPN/USA Today Preseason Coaches Poll. The Seminoles, who went 53-19 last season, are already 2-0 with a pair of wins against Western Kentucky.

Leading the garnet and gold is All-American left fielder John-Ford Griffin. Griffin, who led the team last year with a .403 batting average, hasn't missed a step since last season, going 5-for-7 with a home run and three RBIs against the Hilltoppers.

Following FSU in the preseason ACC poll is Wake Forest. The Demon Deacons have proven that they have one of the top programs in the conference after posting their third straight 40-plus-win season and winning two of the past three Atlantic Coast Conference championships.

Corey Slavik should continue



A couple of N.C. State players work on baserunning drills during practice this week. The Wolfpack is picked to finish fifth in the conference.

to be a standout player for the Deacs. As an experienced, reliable player with good power, he hit .311 last season with eight home runs and 56 RBIs.

Rivals North Carolina and N.C. State are tied for fifth in

the preseason poll with 40 votes each.

Although they are a young team, the Tar Heels will attempt to sustain what has become the most successful era in UNC history. Coming off three succes-

sive seasons of 40-plus wins and three straight NCAA Tournament appearances, not to mention consensus Top 10 rankings, this team will have big shoes to fill.

The Wolfpack has hopes of

returning to NCAA Tournament play for the 13th time in the past 16 years after missing out last year.

"They picked us middle of the pack, but it really doesn't matter where you start, it's where you

finish," State junior outfielder Brian Wright said.

Rounding out the preseason poll, in order of predicted finish, are Virginia, Duke and Maryland.

WRIGHT

Continued from Page 10

Freshman All-American in 1999 and first-team All-ACC in 2000. He hopes his personal success will translate into team success for the Pack, which is predicted to finish fifth in the Atlantic Coast Conference.

"I think we'll surprise some people this year," said Wright. "We have a lot of new guys playing this year like J.D. [Jeremy Dutton] at shortstop, and Sean Walsh will be a stud at third."

Wright will start this year in center field in place of sophomore John Whitley, who left the team for personal reasons. Wright, whose normal position is left field, is known for his hitting rather than his fielding.

"Hitting is definitely my specialty," Wright said. "I have some improvements to make on the field."

PITCH

Continued from Page 10

ings. Mattison makes his way into the rotation after spending all of last year in the bullpen. The senior righty was 2-0 with a 2.70 ERA in 13 appearances.

If any of these three struggles, State has plenty of experienced pitchers waiting to fill in. D'Amato, sophomore Mike Prochaska and junior Kyle Stephenson are among those who can start.

In the bullpen, State will likely rely on the duo of junior Mike Sollie and senior Josh Miller. Sollie spent the better part of last season as a starter, putting together a 4-5 record with a 3.82 ERA. Miller made a team-high 27 appearances in 2000, with a 5-1 record and a team-best 2.35 ERA.

Offensively, Avent and his team expect marked improvement over last season. The Pack hit .296 as a team but struggled at times with pushing runners across the plate, as its opponents outscored it 353-325. After a successful fall hitting against their own pitchers, the State batters don't expect to have the same problem.

"If the fall and the spring showed us anything, I think we'll be a very offensive team compared to last year," senior Eric Mosley said.

The anchor of the State lineup is junior outfielder Brian Wright, who was named to the All-ACC

Along with leading the team last year in batting, home runs, and RBIs, Wright was second in stolen bases with nine. That prompted Avent to put Wright in the leadoff spot at times last season.

Despite all the impressive offensive statistics, Wright does not want to address the prospects of playing professionally.

"I'd rather not talk about that right now," said Wright. "I'm just having a good time living here, hanging out with the guys and playing baseball."

Playing baseball was Wright's passion growing up in Ramseur, a small town west of Raleigh one hour down I-64 West. How small is Ramseur?

"Blink, and you'll miss it," says Wright.

It was in Ramseur that Wright grew up and played baseball for Eastern Randolph High School, which Wright led to the 2-A state title his senior year.

That game was played at Doak Field, the home of the Pack, and

first team last year after hitting 366 with 12 home runs and 52 RBIs, all team highs. Wright underwent surgery over the summer to remove bone chips from his elbow, an injury he played with through his first two years in a Pack uniform. Considering the way Wright hit when he wasn't healthy, that could be bad news for opposing pitchers.

"It's feeling pretty good," Wright said. "No problems hitting. A little problem maybe throwing. There's a little soreness in there still. Hopefully, by the time ACC's roll around, I should be all right."

In addition to pitching last year, Prochaska was one of the freshmen who thrived in the State lineup. During his inaugural year with the Pack, Prochaska hit .350 and drove in 37 runs.

Jeremy Dutton, another member of last year's freshman class, has made great strides since the end of the 2000 season. Dutton, who will move from third base to the middle infield, hit .389 during State's fall intrasquad series after compiling a .260 average the previous spring.

Jeremy Dutton's improved believability," D'Amato said.

Mosley, the expected starter at second base, also had a monster fall after hitting a solid .324 in 39 games last year. Mosley, who came to State last year as a junior college transfer, hit .500 and scored 10 runs during the Fall World Series.

"I feel I've made a lot of strides offensively compared to last year," Mosley said. "I feel a lot

foreshadowed what has turned out to be a stellar career at State. Wright's first choice of schools, East Carolina and North Carolina, offered him scholarships to play, but Wright liked the coaches and players at State better.

"I signed during the early signing period," Wright said. "There wasn't much of a choice."

Avent for one, is glad to see him here. When asked to compare Wright to other players he's coached, Avent paused and could only come up with one.

"Jake Weber is one guy I would compare Brian with," Avent said. "Weber never missed a game, was strong academically and went about his business very quietly."

Not bad company for the junior outfielder. Then again, Wright enjoys just being one of the guys and playing baseball.

"You can come out here, and leave all your worries behind you," Wright said.

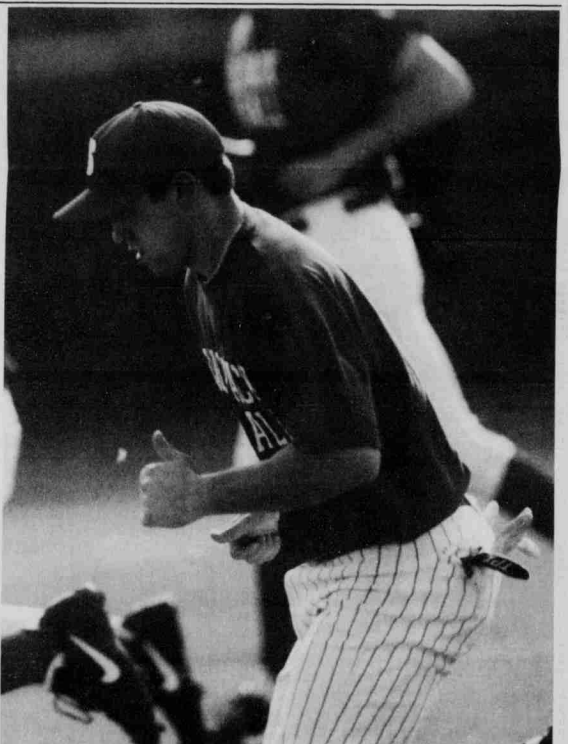
more confident at the plate and in the field."

The Pack got a big-time addition to its lineup in the person of third baseman Sean Walsh. Walsh, a transfer from Radford, was a constant source of production at the plate in the fall scrimmages.

The biggest question mark in Avent's lineup is at catcher, where the Pack has to find a suitable replacement for Dan Mooney. Mooney, now a minor leaguer in the Boston Red Sox organization, was a major deterrent for would-be base stealers and gave State a legitimate power threat on offense. Four different players — freshmen Colt Morton and Conor Clougherty, junior Sam Esposito and transfer Justin Riley — have seen time behind the plate in practice in an effort to find one who can step in at that position.

"Any time you lose a player, which might have been the best catcher in college baseball in Dan Mooney, I'm sure the next year may seem like maybe you don't have the same guy back there," Avent said. "But we've never asked any one of those catchers back here this year to try to be Dan Mooney, just work hard and progress and get ready to just do an outstanding job behind the plate."

State will play the final two games of its series with Cincinnati Saturday and Sunday. The first pitch for both of those games will be thrown out at 1:30 p.m.



The Wolfpack missed the NCAA Tournament for the first time under Elliott Avent's direction.

GYM

Continued from Page 10

by sensational freshman Alexis Maday, who is ranked 21st in the country in all-around competition.

The 23rd-ranked Golden Flashes of Kent State (4-3) are another Top 25 team that should challenge for first place in the meet.

William and Mary (6-3) is a solid club that is averaging a 190.062 for the season and has competed in the Hearts Invitational for the last two years.

Rounding out the field is East Atlantic Gymnastics League

member North Carolina. The Tar Heels are coming off a first-place finish at the Governor's Cup and are 4-2 for the year.

"It'll be a good meet," said Johnson. "There will be five pretty strong teams competing. We just need to do our job and hopefully improve on last weekend and get the score that we got two weeks ago."

The Pack will be at home for the next two weeks, which will allow the gymnasts to hopefully build more confidence before going on the road for three of the last four meets.

The Hearts Invitational will begin at 7 p.m. in Reynolds Coliseum.

DEACON

Continued from Page 10

points off the bench, while starters Tiffani Listenbee and Kristen Shaffer added six points apiece.

Wake Forest has dropped a season-high four straight games.

The Pack finishes its three-game road trip Thursday in Atlanta against Georgia Tech. State won the first meeting 77-63 Dec. 6 in Reynolds Coliseum.

Read Technician Sports

SCORES

W. basketball 69, Wake Forest 35



Friday Sports

SCHEDULE

M. basketball @ Duke, 2/11, 3:30
W. basketball @ Georgia Tech, 2/15
Wrestling @ Navy, 2/10
Gymnastics, Hearts Invite, 2/9, 7:00
Baseball vs. Cincinnati, 2/9, 3:00



JAMES CURLEY/STAFF
N.C. State's suffocating defense held Wake Forest to just 35 points Thursday night. The win was the fourth win in a row for the Wolfpack.

◆ The women's basketball team held Wake Forest to 20.6 percent shooting from the floor in a 69-35

Sports Staff Report

Carisse Moody notched another double-double, scoring 20 points and grabbing 10 rebounds, as No. 24 N.C. State cruised past Wake Forest 69-35.
State (15-8, 6-6 Atlantic Coast Conference) is riding a four-game

winning streak after starting its conference slate 2-6. The Wolfpack is in a fight for the second seed in the ACC Tournament, as four

Women's basketball	
NCSU	69
WAKE	35

teams entered Thursday's action with a 6-5 conference mark.
Moody, who was 8-for-10 from the floor, scored 10 points within the first seven minutes of the game to help State build a 15-7 lead before hitting another basket during a 14-0 run. The burst

opened a comfortable 33-10 advantage with three and a half minutes remaining before halftime.

Talisha Scates scored six points and blocked a shot during the decisive run for State, while Tynesha Lewis added four points. The Pack connected on 53 percent of its shots in the first half (17-for-32) while holding a 27-16 rebounding advantage.

Wake Forest (11-12, 3-9) committed eight turnovers over the first 20 minutes and shot a dismal 20 percent (6-for-30) from the floor. The

Demon Deacons shot just 20.6 percent (13-for-63) for the game and 43.8 percent (7-for-16) at the free-throw line.

State continued to pour it on in the second half, using a 16-4 run to take its biggest lead of the game at 53-20 with just over 12 minutes left. Lewis scored six points during the stretch and ended the game with 10.

The Deacs did not have a double-digit scorer in the game. LaChina Robinson led the team with seven

See DEACON, Page 9

Opening Pitch

◆ With more experience and new life in its bats, the N.C. State baseball team is ready for a run at the NCAA's.

Jeremy Ashton
Sports Editor

By N.C. State standards, the 2000 baseball season was a disappointment.

The Wolfpack completed its schedule with a 30-28 record last year and missed out on the NCAA Tournament

WHAT: The first time in head coach Elliott Avent's four-year tenure. But State, picked to finish fifth in the Atlantic Coast Conference, appears anxious for a return to prominence.

WHEN: The pursuit of that goal begins Friday when the Pack hosts Cincinnati at 3 p.m. at Doak Field in the opener of a three-game weekend series.

WHERE: 3 p.m. at Doak Field in the opener of a three-game weekend series.

"Guys have worked very hard since the first day of arrival in the fall," Avent said. "This group has a lot of fun, goes about their business, gets stuff done, and I think things are going pretty good right now."

State played last season with a young, mostly inexperienced team. The Pack felt

plenty of growing pains, as seven true freshmen received significant playing time. While that trial by fire in the ACC hurt the Pack in 2000, it could ultimately aid the team in the coming season.

"The guys that got so much playing time last year as freshmen, even though they're still only sophomores, they've grown up quite a bit," Avent said.

The pitching staff should benefit most from last season's trial by fire. Avent has a deep group of hurlers, a majority of whom are sophomores and juniors, at his disposal.

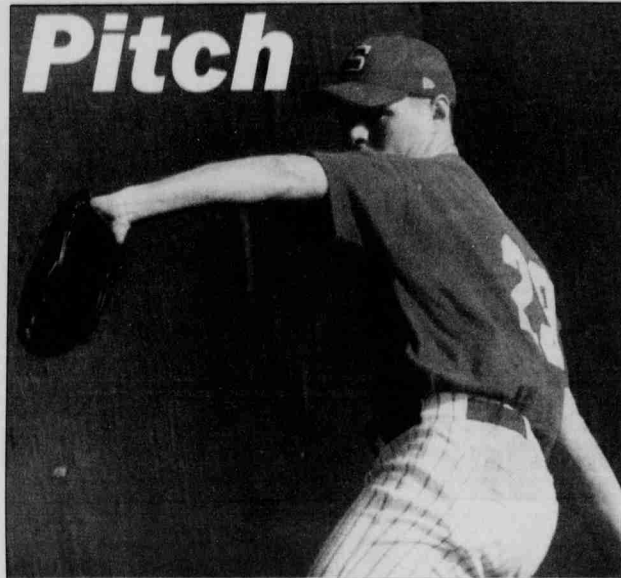
"We've got pretty much every guy back from the staff last year," junior Dan D'Amato said. "Everybody's a year older and a little more experienced than we had last year."

Heading into the season opener against the Bearcats, State plans to use sophomore Daniel Caldwell, junior Ryan Combs and senior Corey Mattison in the weekend rotation.

Caldwell compiled a 2-2 record in 23 appearances during his freshman year. Most of those trips to the mound came out of the bullpen, but by the end of the year, he firmly established himself in the rotation, even starting the ACC Tournament opener against Florida State.

Combs started 14 games on the mound last spring, second only to D'Amato. Combs went 5-5 with a 4.32 ERA in 20 total out-

See PITCH, Page 9



Mike Sollie is just one of the experienced arms on N.C. State's pitching staff this year.

ACC boasts strong competition

◆ Top-ranked Georgia Tech leads a conference full of talented teams.

Justin Sellers
Staff Writer

The 2001 Atlantic Coast Conference baseball season features a wide range of talented teams and big name players that should guarantee an exciting season for any fan.

The ACC was well represented in the NCAA Tournament in 2000, sending five teams to Regionals and two to the College World Series. The conference begins the year expecting more of the same.

"It's one of the best conferences in the country," said N.C. State head coach Elliott Avent. "If you care about rankings, I think we've got three teams ranked in the top seven in the country."

Georgia Tech begins the year picked first in the ACC and the nation by the media. The Yellow Jackets' record of 50-16 last season was good enough to finish in first place in the conference, but they didn't stop there, coming away with the ACC Tournament championship, as well.

The Jackets sport a roster that returns all nine regular starters and six of the top

eight pitchers from last year's squad.

Leading the way is consensus preseason all-American Mark Teixeira. Teixeira, a junior third baseman, was the recipient of the Dick Howser Trophy as the National Player of the Year last spring.

Teixeira is regarded by many as one of the premier hitters in college baseball. Last season, he led the Jackets in nearly every offensive category, while winning the ACC's batting crown with a .427 average and taking the league's home run title with 18.

"I'd have to say Georgia Tech is the frontrunner just because they have everybody back, and they have a big-time transfer pitcher that transferred in," State pitcher Dan D'Amato said. "So they should be real solid on the mound on the weekends. I don't think they lost one person in their starting lineup, and they were ACC champions last year."

On the Jackets' heels is Clemson, who are ranked fifth in the preseason by Collegiate Baseball and 10th by Baseball America.

Last season was a good one for the Tigers, who finished seventh in the nation with a 51-18 record and earned a trip to

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The Wright man for the job

◆ Junior outfielder Brian Wright is ready for another big year.

Wes Putnam
Staff Writer

Brian Wright enjoys being one of the guys.

Never mind the fact that he led or finished in the top five of every offensive category as a sophomore for N.C. State. Not to mention that Wright has played the last two years with what he has described at times as "shooting" pain in his right elbow due to bone chips.

Despite the pain in his elbow, which he had successful surgery on Aug. 15, Wright will anchor a Wolfpack team looking to improve on last year's sixth-place finish.

Wright suffered the injury to his elbow the summer before his senior year while participating in a "showcase" event. The original diagnosis was tendinitis, and Wright played through it during football season that fall, all the way until last summer in the Cape Cod League.

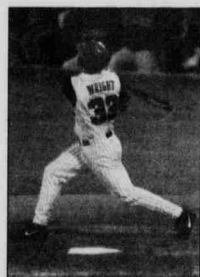
The pain didn't subside, and Wright told State head coach Elliott Avent that he couldn't get full

extension of his elbow at the plate or in the field. Doctors removed the ulnar nerve in his right elbow and removed bone chips this summer. Despite successful surgery, Wright lists his arm at 75 to 80 percent to start the year.

The injury was news to Avent when Wright finally told him.

"I asked him why he didn't tell me that he was injured, and he told me that he just wanted to play," said Avent. "You could coach forever if every guy you recruited was Brian Wright. He comes in here, goes about his business every day and plays hard."

Wright's business during his first two years at State meant starting and playing left field, while amassing a .365 career batting average. He was named a first-team



Brian Wright hit .365 during his first two years at State despite playing with an elbow injury.

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NAMED FIRST-TEAM ALL-ACC FOLLOWING 2000 SEASON...LED N.C. STATE IN BATTING AVERAGE (.366), HOME RUNS (12) AND RBIS (52)...PLAYED FIRST TWO SEASONS AT STATE WITH BONE CHIPS IN HIS RIGHT ELBOW...WAS FRESHMAN ALL-AMERICAN IN 1999 AFTER HITTING .363 WITH 6 HOME RUNS AND 35 RBIS

Gymnastics team back in action Friday

◆ The N.C. State gymnastics team is set to host the Hearts Invitational.

Matt Middleton
Staff Writer

It has become an annual tradition here at N.C. State. The Wolfpack gymnastics team has hosted the Hearts Invitational the weekend before Valentine's Day for the last eight years. This year, the Pack will compete against a strong field that will include Iowa, William and Mary, North

Carolina and Kent State. Statistically, State (7-6) is coming off of its worst performance of the season, but the score of last weekend's Governor's Cup (192.7) can be misleading because many positives resulted from the meet.

"I think we did really well as

a team," said junior co-captain Kelli Brown. "We counted four falls, but that was probably the most aggressive I've seen at a meet. People came back aggressive and finished their routines nice even when they did fall."

Brown continued her brilliant season last Saturday at the Governor's Cup posting an all-around score of 39.375, a mark that was both a career high for Brown and a score that stood as the fifth highest in school history.

"Kelli's been our rock," said assistant coach Colleen

Johnson. "She's stepped everything up a notch this year. She has always had a great amount of talent, but she's just been so consistent this year. She is a great kid, team player and a great leader, so she has certainly helped the team through a lot of things this year."

Additional bright spots for the Pack last weekend were Monica Berry registering solid scores on both the bars (9.75) and the beam (9.85), as well as sophomore Stephanie Southard notching a career high on bars (9.8).

Each year, the Pack looks at

the Hearts Invite as a turning point in the season. The team will add more difficult elements to its routines and really focus on hitting each and every one.

"We know at this point in the season that we really need to start hitting," said Brown. "From this meet on, we need to count all of our scores to go to Regionals."

"We definitely look at next weekend as the start of the next level for us," said Johnson. "Every year, we look at the Sweetheart Invite as the first meet where we really start

stepping up and taking things to the next level."

According to Johnson, one extremely difficult element that the Wolfpack will hope to add to its floor routines is the double back on the last pass. This is an element that not too many teams in the country are doing at this point in the season.

State's toughest opponent figures to be the alma mater of head coach Mark Stevenson, the Iowa Hawkeyes. Iowa, ranked 20th nationally, is led

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