

2. **Apartment Finder**
Technician offers information on area living spaces. Dig it.

7. **Zack Smith...**
gets an interview with Greg Rucka, plus information about Harry Potter

8. **FLIGHT**
Check out the other sides of the coin in a triple play of Opinion.

12. **ACC Defense**
Rob takes on the ACC's critics, and Sports previews the track teams' trip to Chapel Hill

Wednesday
March 21, 2001

TECHNICIAN

www.technicianonline.com

NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1920

	Today	Hi 48	Lo 39
	Tomorrow	Hi 63	Lo 36

Prez conference

◆ N.C. State Chancellor Marye Anne Fox went to Washington D.C. Monday to meet with Bush administration officials.

Jimmy Ryals
News Editor

N.C. State Chancellor Marye Anne Fox met Monday with members of President George W. Bush's administration to discuss Fox's possible role in the administration.

"Yesterday, I traveled to Washington to meet with White House staff, and we explored a number of ways I could be of assistance to the country and the administration," Fox wrote Tuesday in a memo to the NCSU Board of Trustees. "This is consistent with my long history of providing advice on science policy, and I hope to continue to be of service to the country."



Chancellor Marye Anne Fox has met with the White House.

Fox could not be reached for further details about her talks with the administration.

Since Bush's election, Fox has been rumored as a possible candidate for the director's job in the White House Office on Science and Technology Policy. At least one national lawmaker, U.S. Representative Bob Etheridge (D-2nd District), has written a letter of recommendation for Fox for the position.

"I know Dr. Marye Anne Fox personally, and I know that she is [a] true science professional and a solid American citizen,"

wrote Etheridge in the Jan. 22 letter. "I urge you to appoint [Fox] as Director of the Office of Science and Technology at the White House."

Fox reiterated in her memo to the trustees her commitment to NCSU.

"I assure you that I fully intend

to stay at N.C. State," Fox wrote. "We are well on our way toward our goal to be the nation's leading land-grant institution. N.C. State can reach even greater heights, and I am committed to staying the course here in Raleigh."

Spring elections around the corner

◆ With two weeks remaining until election day, all candidates are in place.

Cara Froedg
Assistant News Editor

The N.C. State Elections Board will hold elections for all student officers on April 2 and 3 and runoff elections on April 9 and 10, should they be necessary.

The purpose of the board is to hold the elections, validate candidates' qualifications, count and keep the ballots and publicize the elections, said Tony Caravano, chair of the elections board.

Yesterday, they posted the names of all the candidates that are running for an office.

"Now," said Caravano, "we will watch the candidates to make sure they follow the statutes."

The statutes described are outlined in an elections packet that each candidate had to fill out in order to run for an office. It also includes and defines all policies dealing with the election.

In addition, the board is currently looking to hire more poll workers. This year, they hope that more faculty will work the stations in order to avoid voter skepticism regarding who is in charge of ballots or the hiring of anyone involved with a campaign.

Senior Ben Darnell has been contracted to come up with a more efficient paper ballot. On Thursday, the board will vote on whether or not to use the new ballot.

Even if the board adopts the new ballot, there will be additional computer polling stations at Centennial Campus, Fountain Dining Hall, the Atrium and Talley Student Center.

The board will also help the candidates publicize their campaign by linking personal Web sites to the Student Government Web page.

Next Tuesday there will be a student body debate from 6 to 8 p.m. in the Student Senate Chambers on the second floor of the Witherspoon Student Center.

Broadcast live by WKNC and moderated by Andrew Payne, all the candidates for Student Body President, Senate President, Student Body Treasurer and Student Center President will be present to discuss and answer questions. The latter half of the debate will be focused on the presidential candidates.

Technician will be helping to format the questions, according to Payne, who sees the debate as an opportunity for the campus media to come together.

Information regarding policies and all election topics can be found online at the Student Government Web site at www.students.ncsu.edu.

The final list of candidates for the April 2 and 3 student body elections has been completed. Excluding Student Senate candidates, they are:

Student Body President	
Kent Dezendorf	senior, industrial engineering
Harold Pettigrew (incumbent)	senior, political science
James D. Reed	junior, textile engineering
Shane Reese	junior, political science
Darryl Willie	senior, textile and apparel management
Student Body Treasurer	
Shaunis Mercer	senior, business management
Lee Burgess-Ford	senior, political science and statistics
Roberta Hansman	senior, biochemistry
Student Senate President	
Mike Anthony	junior, business management
Conan Morgan (incumbent)	junior, computer science, engineering
Student Center Board of Directors	
Lee Burgess-Ford	senior, political science and statistics
John Seth Dilday	junior, chemistry
Erich Fabricius	junior, chemical engineering
Student Body Chief Justice	
Jennifer Allen	senior, business management
Senior Class President	
Rachael Overcash	senior, biochemistry and political science
Kimberly McNair	junior, chemistry
Senior Class Vice President	
Lauren Talley	senior, business management
Nadira Mathlin	senior, computer engineering
Chethan Pandarinath	senior, computer engineering
Kevin Bridge	junior, biochemistry
Chris Genovese	junior, business management
Student Media Authority	
Danny Podynowski	meteorology, freshman
Michael T. Crotty	statistics, senior
Damion Martin	animal sciences, sophomore
Matt Jones	freshman, natural resources
Gary Palin	senior, political science
Kerriann H. Paul	sophomore, biochemistry

A list of the Student Senate candidates will appear in Thursday's Technician.

Bush's CO₂ policy meets controversy in congress

◆ Congressmen on both sides are taking up the battle after Bush's policy change last week.

George Fairbanks
Minnesota Daily (U. Minnesota)

(U-WIRE) MINNEAPOLIS — When President George W. Bush announced last week he was reneging on his campaign pledge to seek reductions in carbon dioxide emissions, he set into motion what might be among the first controversial issues of his presidency.

Minnesota Democratic U.S. Reps. Bill Luther and Betty McCollum "smoke against Bush's

action Monday at the Capitol.

"The president's flip-flop on this critical environmental position will ensure the continued proliferation of pollutants that produce the greenhouse gases that are warming our climate," McCollum said.

In a prepared statement, McCollum said she and Luther sent a letter to Bush strongly urging him to "keep your promise to the American people and seek reductions in the emissions of carbon dioxide."

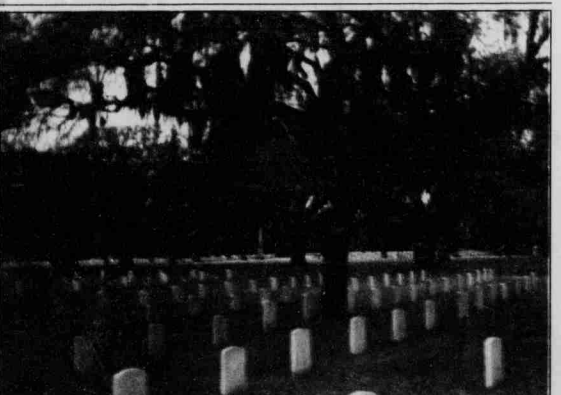
The Environmental Protection Agency links some environmental changes in the Twin Cities area to global warming.

For instance, the average tem-

perature in Minneapolis has risen one degree Fahrenheit over the last century. Precipitation in some parts of the state has increased as much as 20 percent. The EPA predicts Minnesota's environment might change even more in the 21st century.

Both representatives also criticized Rep. Joe Barton, R-Texas, chairman of the House Energy and Air Quality Subcommittee. Luther said Barton promised as long as he was chairman of the committee, a carbon dioxide reduction proposal would be permanently off the table.

"That is no way to begin a dis-



Many students took in vacations to faraway locations for their Spring Break. This shot was taken in the Beaufort National Cemetery.

U. Michigan study finds more adolescents abusing Ritalin

◆ Student cites drug's versatility as a reason for its popularity.

Kelly Trahan
Michigan Daily (U. Michigan)

(U-WIRE) ANN ARBOR, Mich. — According to the recent University of Michigan study "Monitoring the Future," adolescents are increasingly abusing methylphenidate, the drug more commonly known as Ritalin, in order to study longer, party harder and suppress their appetites.

Ritalin is a mild stimulant most commonly prescribed to school-age children to control Attention Deficit Disorder.

But the drug is sold for about \$3 to \$5 per pill on the black market.

University students, like many across the country, are willing to pay for Ritalin's varied effects

including appetite suppression, wakefulness, increased focus for studying and euphoria.

Abusers either consume Ritalin in pill form, crush the pill and snort it or mix the pill in water and inject the mixture.

"I would not be surprised to see Ritalin at any frat party or house party. It is really prevalent," said an LSA sophomore who requested that her name not be printed.

"Ritalin can do whatever you want it to," she added.

"If I take it on a Monday night, it helps me concentrate on studying more. If I take it on a Friday night, I can drink three times as much and it makes me more calm and talkative. My conversations are more interesting."

Dr. Luke Tsai, a Michigan professor of psychiatry and pediatrics and director of The Developmental Disorders

Clinic, prescribes Ritalin for his Attention Deficit Disorder patients.

"Ritalin does make people more alert for a much longer period of time," Tsai said. "But an overdose can make people very irritable or zombie-like."

While Tsai warns that consuming any prescription drug without a prescription is very dangerous, he said that Ritalin is not physiologically addictive and in small doses it is not a dangerous medication.

In addition to psychological addiction, The Indiana Prevention Resource Center at Indiana University reports that Ritalin abuse can lead to increased heart rate and blood pressure, dizziness, headaches and in some cases psychotic episodes.

The report said, "While death due to Ritalin is not common, it has been known to occur."

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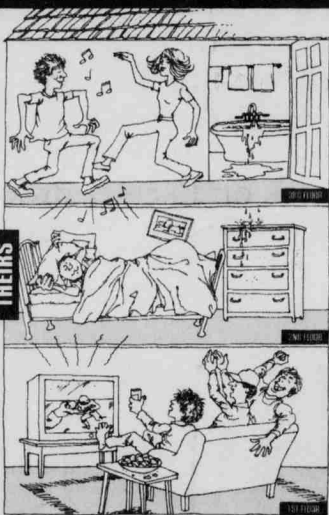
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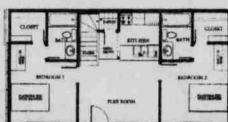
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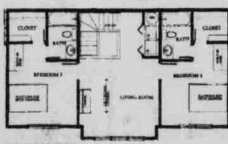


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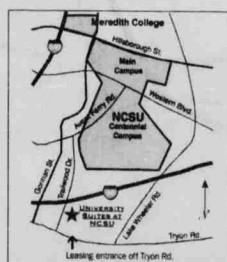
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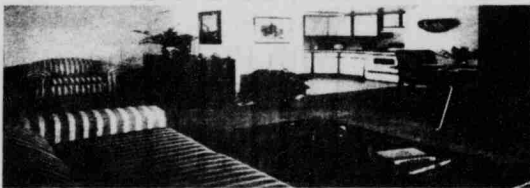


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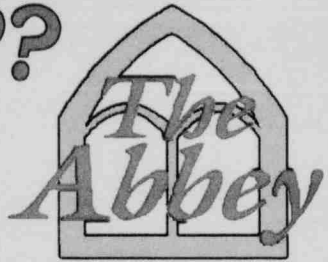
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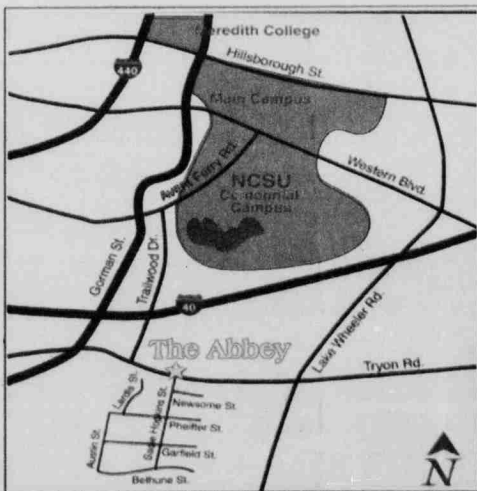
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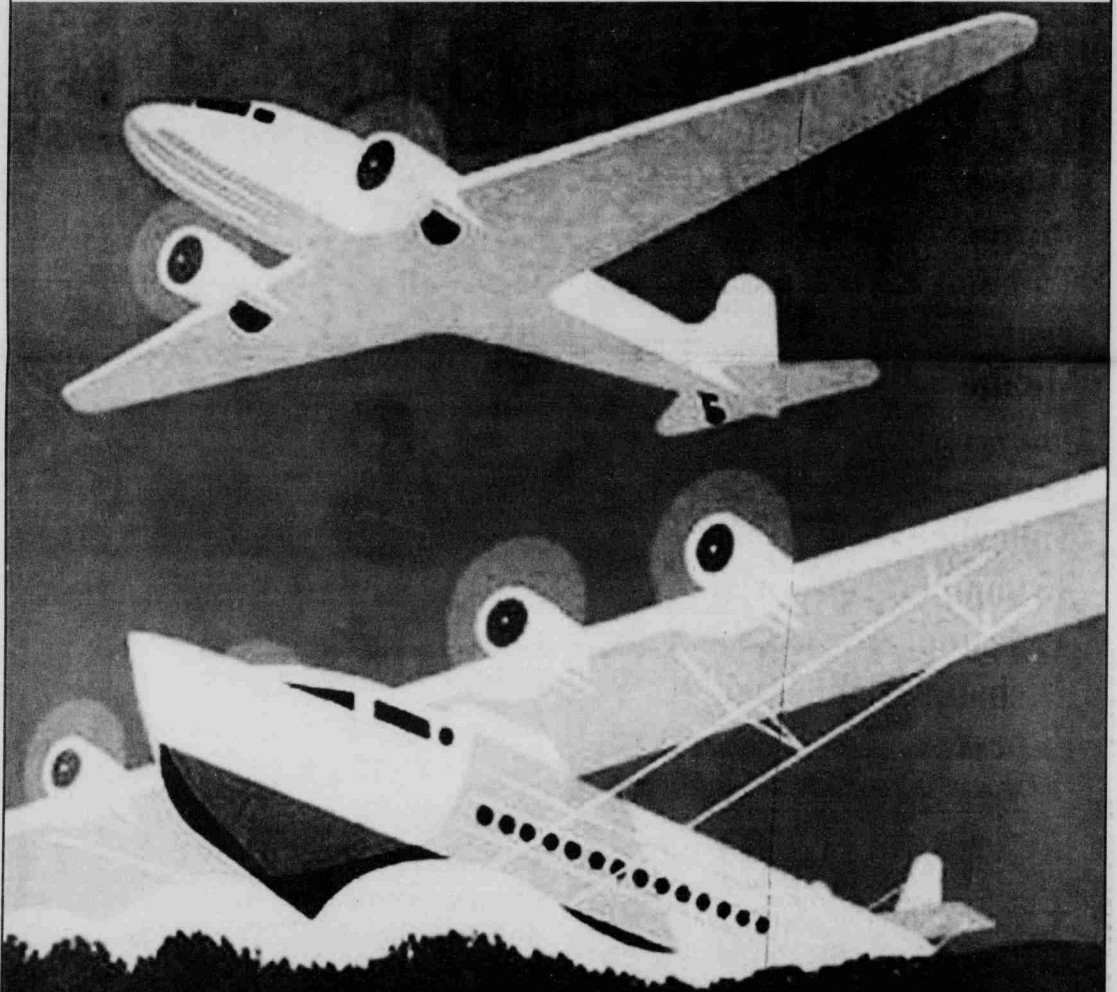
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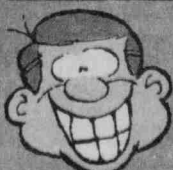
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BUSH

Continued from Page 1

cussion of long-range energy policy in this country. And it's absolutely no way to engage in bipartisanship, as has been talked about so much by leaders in Washington over the last few months," Luther said.

However, Barton spokeswoman Samantha Jordan said Barton had been opposed to any legislation creating regulations because it would be detrimental to the coal industry.

"He doesn't even begin to know how you would regulate something like CO₂," Jordan said. "It's so prolific in our society. Plants breathe it in and it's in everything right down to Coca-Cola."

Luther also criticized the Bush administration for attempting to use the California energy crisis as an excuse to backtrack on the campaign pledge.

"There has been a lot of talk coming out of Washington — particularly the White House — about the California energy crisis. But the truth is, we cannot look to the problems California is having as an excuse to destroy our treasured natural resources," Luther said.

Tony Sutton, executive director of the Minnesota GOP, said, "I think it's a cheap shot when the president's trying to deal with a legitimate crisis in the state of California, for the Democrats — especially Democrats like Luther and McCollum — to use this to attack the president."

Bush is committed to the environment, Sutton said, but the situation is "one of those things where you have to balance the needs of the people for electricity versus the environment."

Sutton blamed the current energy crisis on "burdensome regulations the liberals have put upon the production of electricity." He said Minnesota will soon face its own energy crisis and demand will have to be met through building more power plants.

McCollum also spoke of the difficult balancing act between the environment and business.

"The health of our economy is important, but the health of our environment is the essence of all life on this planet," she said.

In addition to politicians, Chuck Dayton of the Minnesota Interfaith Climate Change Campaign voiced his concern about the impact of global warming, which he said will fall hardest on the poor — particularly those in developing countries.

"Our faith in God the creator is inseparable from our responsible stewardship of God's creation," he said.

McCollum and Luther advocated the administration adopting a long-term energy plan and serving as an example for the rest of the world.

"As a country we must commit ourselves to finding more practical, cleaner, renewable forms of energy," Luther said.

McCollum agreed and said Bush's "flip-flop on carbon dioxide undermines our nation's ability to show global leadership in the environmental community."

Environmental leaders, such as Sierra Club's Ginny Yingling, criticized the president for changing his mind, calling it a "slap in the face to the American public. Because when he was asked why he changed his position, he said, 'Now I'm dealing with reality' — as if the campaign for the presidency had nothing to do with reality."

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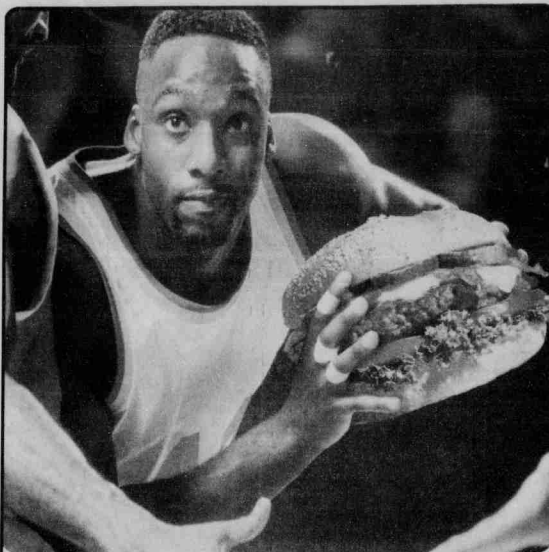
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SPYING QUEEN & COUNTRY

A Chat With Greg Rucka • Part One

Jack Smith
Senior Staff Writer

Three years ago, the name of novelist Greg Rucka was virtually unknown to comics fans. All that changed in 1998, when Oni Press released Rucka's mini-series "Whiteout," which proved to be a huge critical and popular hit.

The following year saw a sequel to "Whiteout" entitled "Whiteout: Melt," along with a number of Batman comics written for the title's "No Man's Land" crossover. This in turn led to a regular gig writing the flagship Bat-title, "Detective Comics," as well as several stories for the Superman books. This week sees the release of Rucka's latest project, the new ongoing bi-monthly title "Queen and Country" (Oni, \$2.95), which features the spy character Tara Chace from "Whiteout."

Rucka admits that he had the series in mind for a while. "When I was first writing 'Whiteout' and Tara (called 'Lily Sharpe' at the time) from the moment she entered the story, she just added so much to it. I knew there were other stories I could tell with her. It was just a matter of if I could do an on-going series with the character. It took me maybe another three, four years before I got to where I could do the series... it took a while before I could figure out what the format of the series was going to be, what kind of artist I should do this with, that kind of thing."

"Queen and Country" will feature standalone story arcs with a continuing cast of characters. "The first issue is pretty much self-contained, you can read it and get a whole story, but it's also part one of a four-part story," Rucka explains. The

series was heavily influenced by a cult British TV series called "The Sandbaggers," which dealt with a grittier, more realistic perspective of the spy game (a Web site about the series is at www.oproom.org). "I encountered it on KTEH television in California when I was growing up, and I still to this day (and I'm a television snob) consider it one of the best things I've ever seen on television." Like that show, "Queen and Country" will tell stories dealing with the more morally ambiguous aspects of being a spy.

"Spies are not nice people. In the John LeCarre book 'The Spy Who Came in From the Cold,' you have the head of the British Secret Service summing it up when he says 'We convince ourselves that the things we do in espionage will be done for the better than most war. That's fundamentally different from most superhero books, where you know the heroes aren't going to kill anybody,'" Rucka says. "I can take ['Queen and Country'] to a more realistic, relevant place than those books. 'Queen and Country' is very based in reality. A lot of the stories I am writing are based on stories I've read in newspapers. It's not supposed to be so much politically possible as it is supposed to be relevant to contemporary stuff."

"Look at the newspaper today, Saudi Arabia is launching a commando raid to free hostages from a hijacked airplane that had flown in to Chechnya. Now there's a whole espionage story there, because all I have to do is put one British Diplomat on that plane. All of a sudden, the British Secret Service is involved. All of a sudden the British government is taking with the Saudi government about what they're going to do, because they have their

Director-General of Operations on that hijacked plane that is now in their country..."

Rucka has done a large amount of research for this project. "I've read history, and there's a number of good books out there... one I really like is called 'MI-6,' about the history of the British Secret Service; there's another called 'The Mitrokhin Archive,' and it's the driest f— —g book in the world, but it has the CIA and the KGB talking about all the operations they launched against each other during the Cold War. I read a lot of the fiction too, because the truth of the matter is that real espionage is horribly, horribly dull for the most part... there's a very large scale and the stakes are very high, but what really happens is you have hundreds of people in offices pouring over various sources of information: photographs, clippings, radio transmissions, surveillance and one guy in one office hears something about an uprising, and someone else hears something about plutonium being wired somewhere, and a third guy takes this information and realizes—these people are making a nuke."

"Now that drama's really hard to depict if you're not familiar with how this process works. In 'Queen and Country,' Tara is in the Operations office, not Intelligence. Intelligence is what espionage mostly is, finding out what's going on, Operations is the group that goes out there and sees if there is a threat... and if something is wrong, it comes down to them to stop it."

(Check back tomorrow for Part Two, where Rucka dishes more dirt about "Queen and Country," his Bat-work, his novels and a new mini-series he's doing with the last character you'd expect from him. The



first issue of "Queen and Country" arrives in stores March 21. Collected versions of "Whiteout" and "Whiteout: Melt" are available at local comic shops like Foundation's Edge and Capital Comics, along with other comics shops nationwide. The first issue of "Queen and Country" is available online as a free PDF file at www.onipress.com/freecomic. Rucka's official Web site is online at <http://www.easystreet.com/~kodak/>; a new version will soon be available at www.gregrucka.com. If you want to find a local comic shop, or learn more about ordering comics, try the toll-free number 1-800-COMIC-BOOK or the Web sites www.masterlist.com and www.ordering-comics.com.

Rowling launches two Harry Potter textbooks

Kathleen Danes
The Mancater (U. Missouri)

(U-WIRE) COLUMBIA, Mo. — Fans of Harry Potter will have to wait until 2002 to see how their favorite boy wizard will bear up against Voldemort's amassed forces of dark forces. That's when the fifth Harry Potter book, tentatively titled "Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix," is slated for release.

Instead, Muggles in need of a Harry Potter fix can turn to two recent releases by author J. K. Rowling.

Penned under the pseudonyms Newt Scamander and Kennilworthy Whisp, the two books are replicas of Potter's own textbooks. "Quidditch Through the Ages" and "Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them." "Fantastic Beasts" even comes with margin notes from Harry and his two friends, Hermione Granger and Ron Weasley. Each also comes with an introductory note from Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry professor Albus Dumbledore, who makes a sort of sketchy peg for Comic Relief U. K., where the net proceeds of both books will go.

The best thing about the two books is that they are infused with the same light touch Rowling usually gives her work. Both are droll in many places, especially in the tongue-in-cheek "Fantastic Beasts," which dispenses such advice as, "Trolls eat raw flesh and are not fussy in their prey, which ranges from wild animals to humans."

"Fantastic Beasts" is the more approachable of the two books because



Rowling cleverly uses handwritten commentary by Harry and Ron to lead the reader, ruling them forward. Not to mention Rowling preserves the relationship between the two friends even in the short bursts of dialogue found here.

Plus, Rowling indulges her habit of making fun of wizards and humans alike: "Eric the Oddball ate time attempted to prove the Fwoopoo song was benefi-

cial. Unfortunately the Wizard's Council to which he reported was unconvinced, as he had arrived at the meeting wearing nothing but a toupee, which upon closer examination proved to be a dead badger."

"Fantastic Beasts" also reveals all sorts of quirky beasts. One of the favorites surely will be the Puffskein, which is a fluffy, soft creature who cuddles up with wizard children and whose preferred food is bookers, which the Puffskein extracts with its long tongue. Who wouldn't want one of these?

"Quidditch Through the Ages" reads more like the library book it is supposed to be. At times, it becomes a little tedious, unless the reader has a profound interest in learning how Quidditch developed.

Still, Rowling remembers to put in a humorous line here and there. The first reference to Quidditch is from a witch who despises the game and only knows one day of the week, Tuesday.

Yet Rowling covers the history of Quidditch extensively, right down to a paragraph for each team from England. Included is a club, the Chudley Cannons, whose losing record sounds suspiciously like that of the Chicago Cubs.

The two books are cute enough, even if they leave the reader longing for more Harry Potter.

If nothing else, Quidditch and Fantastic Beasts are shrewd marketing devices by Rowling to ensure her characters aren't forgotten during the yearlong hiatus. With the four Harry Potter books still topping children's bestseller lists, however, Rowling has little to worry about.

Auditions for "Little Shop of Horrors."

Features Staff Report



Raleigh Little Theatre will produce "Little Shop of Horrors" in the Rose Garden Amphitheatre June 8-17. Auditions for the production will be held on RLT's Main Stage on April 9 and 10 at 7:30 p.m.

Based on Roger Corman's 1960 "quackie" horror classic, the stage play was made into a movie in 1986, starring Ellen Greer (who indelibly stamped her mark on the role of Audrey in the original cast), Rick Moranis and Steve Martin.

The Roles

Seymore Krelbourne
25-35, lovable, funny, loyal character-type; shy with women, secretly in love with Audrey. Lyric baritone.

Audrey
25-35, good-hearted, dizzy, sexy, vulnerable (singing cross between Marilyn Monroe and Judy Holiday); a bit "worn around the edges" and dreams of a better life. Actress must have an exceptionally strong singing voice with a solid belt to an E.

Orin
30s, tall, darkly handsome, slick

sadistic dentist. Actor must possess strong comic instincts and be versatile enough to double in several male/female roles. Baritone.

Mr. Mushnik
50s, teary-like, Lower East Side florist shop owner; moody, skeptical, crafty yet likable, energetic and funny. Baritone.

Crystal, Ronnetta, Chiffon
Three singer/actresses, who move well, comprise the inner-city "Greek chorus" for the play. Good ear training is a must.

Voice of Audrey II (flesh eating plant)

Black actor with strong, resonant expressive bass speaking and singing voice. Must be comfortable with rock 'n' roll.

"Physical" Audrey II
Portrayed by a series of puppets, which grow progressively larger during the course of the show. Any performers who are interested in operating the various puppets should apply individually to the director, Haskell Fitz-Simons (821-4579, x222).

Auditioners should prepare an upbeat song and bring sheet music in the correct key. An accompanist will be provided. Auditioners should wear comfortable clothing and shoes, as there also will be a short movement audition.

The production will be directed by RLT Artistic Director Haskell Fitz-Simons. The Music Director will be Linda S. Vello and the choreographer will be area newcomer Patricia Hiaht.

Personal scripts are available from the RLT business office on a 48-hour loan basis.

TECHNICIAN'S VIEW

Student Government, Student Media inappropriately tied SHOULD STUDENT GOVERNMENT AND STUDENT MEDIA BE MIXED?

Technician, WKNC, The Nubian Message. Agromock, Windhover and Americana are the student media provided by and to N.C. State's student body. The Student Media Authority (SMA) is the governing body of all student media; it elects media heads and manages media throughout the year.

The SMA consists of the managerial and editorial heads of the various media, the SMA Chair, who is elected by the student body, several student representatives also elected by the student body, the Student Body Treasurer (SBT) and the Student Body President (SBP). The Chair has no voting power except in the case of a tie or lack of quorum. The SBT has no voting power whatsoever.

media and government having influence over matters they know nothing about. They're not at WKNC or Technician and they have no idea what goes on, but they can influence who is in charge, who will be the next General Manager or Editor in Chief.

The White House and Congress do not have any say over the goings-on of the *New York Times* or the *Washington Post*. Why then does our own SBP have control within our own media?

Obviously, the "virtue" referenced in the SMA statute points to the fact that the SBP is elected by the Student Body and should reflect student sentiment. But isn't that what the Student Representatives do?

The SMA Preamble acknowledges the media "are valuable in establishing and preserving an atmosphere of free and responsible discussion and intellectual exploration." And the SMA Code of Ethics assures "freedom of inquiry and expression are guaranteed." But how genuine is that freedom? How open is this inquiry?

As matters stand today, if the SBP for whatever reasons disliked, for example, WKNC's handling of its upcoming Elections Debate or *Technician's* election coverage or endorsements, the SBP could easily punish the media.

The SBP should, of course, as a matter of duty, participate in the SMA. But should that participation include voting power? Absolutely not.

Until such connections, or threats of connections, are completely eradicated, the relationship between Student Government and Student Media will continue to be suspicious and unhealthy so — in the eyes of the general student body.

"There could well be a conflict of interest — especially if [the media] would be criticized student government," explains NCSU political science professor Andrew Taylor. "Then the authority pushed by the President could extract some retribution."

Joe Oviets, General Manager of WKNC, agrees, "Student Government and Student Media should be separated, or you end up with state-controlled

But the SMA's blindness to the danger of the SBP's ability to strongly affect the various media is both astounding and naive, truly putting the "SMA" in "small-minded."

Other than the guy sleeping. There were no other staff members in the area to see the guy sleeping. The public safety guy makes his rounds and sees the guy sleeping. No one else has been in this area of the library. My question is, who complained? The officer walks back by me with a smile on his face and says something to the effect of "it's not going to be a boring night after all. I know exactly what he was talking about just by the look on his face. I saw the guy sleeping earlier in the night. At that point I knew he was going to kick the guy out. The officer proceeded back to the front desk and came back with another officer. That was when myself and another employee heard the officers lie to this guy. Since it's the library's policy not to wake people up, they had no reason to wake this guy up and tell him to get out. They told him something that wasn't true just because they didn't want him there. It's like their personal preference overruled the library's policy. To me, that's like planting evidence on a suspect in order to get their man. In the process of talking to the other staff members about this, I found out they don't follow the policy because they have to work here and don't like them (meaning homeless people) in the library. So they take it upon themselves to rid the library of them. The funny thing about this is that since you have more in common with them as opposed to the homeless person, you're supposed to agree with them. I've also seen episodes where public safety officers have gotten mad because they saw someone sleeping, went to get backup, and couldn't kick the person out because they were awake by the time the officers got back. I'm just wondering, are public safety officers and library staff members supposed to uphold the university's rules or make their own?"

Elijah Mungo
Library Assistant
D.H. Hill Library, NCSU

Rejected NC Quarters

by Richard Morgan and marko



Michael Jordan
" #1 in Hangtime "

Pepsi

"First vs. Coke"



Mt. Olive
"Spend a quarter, net a nickel"

Tobacco

"First in Flavor"



Jesse Helms
"Second to Strom"

Why Would Jesus Dunk?



Richard Morgan
STAFF COLUMNIST

One great paradox in our Judeo-Christian culture is its love of sports. Though we claim to value characteristics like humility, modesty, service, compassion and cooperation — values explicitly and undeniably endorsed by Jesus Christ — we also are fanatical followers of everything from the Super Bowl to March Madness to Little League. We remain either blind or ignorant to the truth that sports encourage the most un-Christian aspects of our personalities: competition, pride, gambling, cheating, favoritism and self-aggrandizement.

As Frank Knight argued in an extensive paper on the nature of competition, "The Ethics of Competition," originally published in the *Quarterly Journal of Economics* (Aug. 1923), "Christianity has been interrupted in so many conflicting ways that one must hesitate to bring it into a scientific discussion; yet even this wide range of uncertainty will not admit competitive values into Christian thought. If there is anything on which divergent interpretations would have to agree, it would be the admission that the Christian conception of goodness is the antithesis of competitive...[G]od's participation in any sort of competitive sport is not to be imagined. Among his most characteristic utterances were the fervent exhortations that the last should be first and that he who would be chief should be the servant of all."

Although church basketball leagues, the YMCA and other Christian resources dependent on sports would argue sports are just games that inspire individual confidence and encourage team efforts, the fact of the matter is that sports cannot exist without definitive opponents, allies and enemies, offense and defense, "winners" and "losers."

The spiritual danger of sports is seen most painfully in the way sports metaphors are used throughout our lives and our conversations. What is the spiritual message between such phrases as "scoring" with a late, "playing the field," "going for the gold," "playing foul," throwing a "trial Mary" pass or even the perfunctory act of thanking God for a victory, as if the Supreme Being were running a roulette table in Heaven, screaming, "I'm putting all my money on Stanford to sweep the Final Four. C'mon, baby, Daddy needs a new pair of everything."

And those first few compromises lead to even worse compromise.

Professional sports are riddled with "trouble makers," who use profanity or violence during games, who rape their girlfriends or even murder them. And it is tolerated — even shrugged off as a "boys will be boys" fact of life.

Recently, a Christian organization on this very campus had a "men's night" that was supposed to teach Christian men how to be better reflections of God. The night included boxing rounds — boxing!

Now, I ask you, how is the God of Creation glorified even in the slightest by the destructive abuse of that creation through punches and bloody noses?

Admittedly, I would not consider myself an athlete. I run and I work out, but I don't play basketball at Carmichael Gym or join intramural flag football or softball leagues at Miller Field. If that makes me weak for not stepping up to the plate, so be it. But who would dare say they are strong — that they find their strength — in stealing glory for themselves on the court or the field? Who would be proud of confusing the goal of more points with the ultimate goal of a deep, loving cooperative relationship with God and fellow mankind?

Richard's got mad game. People gawk at his hangtime. Take him on one-on-one at ncsu_writer@yahoo.com

CAMPUS FORUM

Library, Public Safety officers 'lie' to have 'personal crusade' against homeless

Editor's Note: Due to the nature of this content, the word limit has been waived.

D.H. Hill Library has adopted a policy of not waking patrons up if they are sleeping. This policy was adopted after a number of homeless people were kicked out of the library for sleeping. Certain elements working for D.H. Hill were trying to have people banned from coming in the library. This effort failed. Since then, the policy of not waking sleeping people up has been in place. I know this because I work at the library. Now, some people have made it their personal crusade to keep homeless people out of the library. Although this is not the library's policy anymore, they still take it upon themselves to get them out. On March 11, I heard two public safety officers lie to someone that was sleeping in order to get that person to leave the building. There was a man sleeping over by the newspaper in the Reserves section of the library. The two officers walked up and told this guy that the bell rung and the library was getting ready to close. The library was closing early that week for Spring Break; however, it didn't close until 1 a.m. The officers said this to this guy around 11:30 p.m. My problem with this, if the library's policy is not to wake anyone up, then why are they kicking this guy out? When the officers were walking this guy out I asked them when did the bells ring because I didn't hear them either. I didn't hear them because they didn't ring. When asked about the situation, the officer said he had an outstanding complaint from a D.H. Hill staff member. At that particular time, there were three people in that section of the building. Two of the people worked for D.H. Hill and the

other was the guy sleeping. There were no other staff members in the area to see the guy sleeping. The public safety guy makes his rounds and sees the guy sleeping. No one else has been in this area of the library. My question is, who complained? The officer walks back by me with a smile on his face and says something to the effect of "it's not going to be a boring night after all. I know exactly what he was talking about just by the look on his face. I saw the guy sleeping earlier in the night. At that point I knew he was going to kick the guy out. The officer proceeded back to the front desk and came back with another officer. That was when myself and another employee heard the officers lie to this guy. Since it's the library's policy not to wake people up, they had no reason to wake this guy up and tell him to get out. They told him something that wasn't true just because they didn't want him there. It's like their personal preference overruled the library's policy. To me, that's like planting evidence on a suspect in order to get their man. In the process of talking to the other staff members about this, I found out they don't follow the policy because they have to work here and don't like them (meaning homeless people) in the library. So they take it upon themselves to rid the library of them. The funny thing about this is that since you have more in common with them as opposed to the homeless person, you're supposed to agree with them. I've also seen episodes where public safety officers have gotten mad because they saw someone sleeping, went to get backup, and couldn't kick the person out because they were awake by the time the officers got back. I'm just wondering, are public safety officers and library staff members supposed to uphold the university's rules or make their own?"

Elijah Mungo
Library Assistant
D.H. Hill Library, NCSU

Knowledge is the best reparation



Decker Ngongang
STAFF COLUMNIST

I am tired of picking up *Technician* and seeing one argument over reparations and picking up the *Nubian Message* and seeing another. One offers a perspective of the race at the heart of this issue, and the other seems inconsistent, defensive and one-sided in their disdain for the idea. I am a black male. I don't want reparations, even though I am the descendant of many slaves from rural South Carolina. I don't want a monetary amount placed on one of the saddest most revolting portions of our American history. I don't want what my forefathers to be defined by some number, which in today's economy is subject to rise or fall dramatically. Well, how exactly does America alone for its transgressions?

I want respect, not only for the blacks who are descendants of slavery, but also those whose stories aren't on the front page of the *New York Times*. Look at Native Americans who were first to call this place home; the Chinese, who were long persecuted by America over political paranoia; the middle eastern peoples who are profiled for terrorism even today before they are born; and the various other groups who call America their home; even though America once called them "free labor." You see, slavery was not centralized in the black race; even though we were one of the most highly exploited, we were only one of many groups to have shared America's history of betrayal. People we currently group in the white race were even subject to this in justice and forced servitude. All being troubling, I find more concern with present day than in the acts of the past. We per-

petuate slavery everyday in our society - black, white, Asian, Hispanic. We perpetuate it by not acknowledging it, not learning about it from it.

The only way I had to be paid or my ancestors should be paid is in respect. For many years this country has brushed the subject of how this country was built and exactly who built it. It wasn't the Founding Fathers, but slaves from Africa, Asia, Europe and the native peoples who once inhabited this rich land. The way to respect the history and the ancestors of slavery is to let our country's people know and understand slavery's sleeping influence on our lives and how it inhibited the slaves' life. I want respect of recognition of slavery itself by the government and an apology not just to blacks, but to the country as a whole for the stain this practice placed on our history. There is resentment on both sides; blacks and other minorities are concerned at the fact that they were forced to come and work to build a nation that for hundreds of years and even today would not accept them as normal human beings. Whites, who are as a group seen as the cause of slavery in the United States, contend it is unfair to label someone based on the color of their skin and not the actions of their forefathers.

Where did we get the idea of reparations? Well, why better way to punish an ever-greedy country than to strike it at its core: money. I think everyone knows it would be damn near impossible to pay ever descendant of slavery a monetary amount. Think about it, the one main tool the country used to persecute would come back to bite them in the ass. There is only one way to satisfactorily repay those who suffered from this plague in our society. It is to educate so that we recognize the mistakes in our ways. In school we learn a slighted history of our nation, we learn a cookie-cut version of how this country was founded. We forget about the Native Americans who as their name

Knowledge is the infinite reparation; it heals wounds, bridges gaps and sets the groundwork for unity. This racial stuff is not a fight about who is right and wrong, it is a test to see if we care who we say we are, this great American Melting Pot. I don't agree with slavery or many of the wrongs in the past. I am glad though that I now have it to look back on and use as a growth tool for the future. Read, listen, and grow; I can't say it if I don't do it. We gotta do it together.

Love the Nubian Message, love Technician, hate the ignorance of silence. Email Decker at dngongang@unity.ncsu.edu

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THE OTHER HAND

SCHOOL VOUCHERS

PRO Vouchers have potential...



Nathan Linner
STAFF COLUMNIST

To assert that vouchers are a feasible solution to the problem of failing schools and a reasonable means to improve the overall quality of education in America is, like most political issues, a prelude to rebuttal.

Indeed arguments against vouchers are about as common and unsubstantiated as charges that there is a right wing church and state clause. Yet to argue that a constitutional violation arises from the president's proposal reveals a lack of constitutional knowledge. The first amendment of the constitution states, "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof."

Aside from the fact that there is no mention of an actual separation of church and state, vouchers, as outlined by president Bush, do not in any way empower the government to establish a religion. Moreover, the government will not forbid parents from using vouchers to send their children to a religious school nor do they require them to attend a school with a particular religious affiliation. Thus, vouchers neither enable the government to prohibit the free exercise of religion nor dictate what a person's religious affiliation must be and therefore refrain from infringing on other basic individual rights and freedoms.

Vouchers are unfair because they only help a certain few and therefore widen the education gap between the rich and poor. This is a weak charge because vouchers, as envisioned by the president, will only be distributed to low-income families and poor children and will thereby increase the educational choices of disadvantaged students and families and ultimately narrow the education gap.

Vouchers do not necessarily yield improvement. It was recently discovered in Milwaukee, where there was a voucher program in place, that students who were allowed to move to private schools showed greater improvement in reading and mathematical scores

after three years than students who remained in the public system.

Vouchers will compel private schools to raise costs to counter or react to government subsidies. Private schools have continually raised their spending over the last 70 years without making any substantial educational improvement. (Private schools that did the same thing would be put out of business by their competition.) If the money's going to be spent why not actually get something in return for a change.

Vouchers will allow private or religious institutions to redeem public funds that some taxpayers may have reason to oppose. Since not all private schools are religiously motivated and a private education is almost always superior to a public one, it seems that taxpayers would be in overwhelming support of vouchers. So why aren't they?

Bad teachers are afraid of losing their profession and some people have become content with supporting wasteful and inept bureaucracies. Under the president's plan, private organizations that receive public funds will be held to government standards and regulations.

The government's G.I. Bill has been subsidizing the education of former men and women of uniform at a college or university of their choice for years with no substantial outcry from the public.

Incidentally, tax dollars are also used to make bombs and to spy on foreign citizens. Why not then complain about something that's really dishonest or a threat to human safety instead of arguing against a plan that aims to improve the quality of education in America and elevate the mind of society as a whole.

A bill that includes vouchers is not expected to be presented until the end of March, but a blueprint of what is likely to be proposed for law is currently available on the Internet.

This blueprint states, among an array of other measures, that the local district or state will first identify schools or districts that are needy. Assistance will then be made available to that state or district so that improvement and changes may be made.

If after two years no substantial progress has occurred, corrective action will be taken and all students will be allowed to choose another public school. If after three years the school has still failed to improve, disadvantaged students whose families are unable to afford transportation costs or a private education will be given federal funds that can be used to attend

another public school, a private school or pay for a tutor.

Choice options will be provided to students until two years after the problem school is no longer identified as in need of improvement. Students that relocate will be allowed to remain in their new school for the amount of time they had remaining at their initial school(s).

When reviewing the program, it is fallacious to assume that vouchers are the only and final word on improving public education.

Vouchers are in fact not only a single and very focused component of a rather large and somewhat complex plan to jump-start public education overall, but they are also a virtual last resort.

A review of the president's plan reveals that measures to help faltering schools and districts improve must and will proceed action to relocate disadvantaged students.

Vouchers would enable poor or disadvantaged students the ability to trade a situation that has continually failed them for one that is conducive to learning and able of providing a sound education.

Neither are public schools in danger of becoming extinct. The president does not seek the abolition of a public education system, rather he identifies that there is a problem with the effectiveness of certain (not all) public schools and desires to remedy that problem.

Finally, most opposing arguments come from teacher unions and public officials. Why? Vouchers introduce the element of competition into the arena of public education. Placing an emphasis on quality, performance and accountability can be unsettling to a system or portion of a profession that has rarely been required to provide proof of its aptitude. However, the educational system in America should not be consigned to perpetual failure and waste simply because powerful interests are afraid of being tested or revealed as incompetent. Plainly put: vouchers are a feasible remedy to an inadequate educational system. That is a fact that is encouraging to some and an impetuous for others to argue in favor of themselves—not for improving the quality of education in America.

Is Nathan Most Likely to Succeed or Class Clown? Write in his yearbook at horatio399@yahoo.com

Christmas in July? Thanksgiving in March?



Josh Humphrey
STAFF COLUMNIST

Remember when you were young and you wished that every day could be Christmas day? You could wake up each morning to a brand-new pile of boxes wrapped in shiny paper with your name on them. You could spend each night with visions of gurglings dancing through your head while you strained to hear hoofbeats on the rooftop. The city you live in would always look cheerful, and if you were especially lucky, you wouldn't have to dream about white Christmas, as you'd have at least three or four to choose from each year.

I've realized over the past few days that I'm pining for the holidays, but not for Christmas. No jolly fat man for me; the big brown gobler of Thanksgiving is the symbol I seek. I'm not looking to binge on nap-inducing drumsticks and copious quantities of mashed spuds and biscuits, but instead seeking to capture the feeling behind what unfortunately only comes around once per year.

I must say 2001 has been pretty rough so far. After getting all of that Y2K panic out of the way with minimum damage in 2000, I confess I was looking for some pretty smooth sailing into the early part of the new millennium. Then 2001 reared its ugly head and sunk that boat without the customary shot across the bow. It all began with some pretty scary illnesses in my family in February. It has continued with my failure to achieve a goal I've worked on for the past two years. The only bright spot so far has been that I refigured my taxes properly and got a refund rather than owing Uncle Sam a large chunk of change like last year. Finances aside, I've been left feeling like an average Mike Tyson opponent — punch-drunk — and wondering if I'm going to get my ear bit off.

But then I started thinking about Thanksgiving. We set aside this one day per year where we are actually supposed to think about all that for which we are thankful. No matter the concerns in our lives, we believe them to instead realize that each year brings

both large and small blessings we should treasure. On this one day, your concerns can be laid aside in favor of doing something as simple as breaking bread with those you love. Everything slows down for a while as you talk about the good things that have come to pass, no matter how insignificant they seemed at the time. You find yourself just as pleased by things that have happened to other people as you would if they happened to you. If your family is anything like mine, your biggest concerns are finding some couch space for a serious power nap and fighting over which football game is the most important, and therefore the one to be watched. If you are especially lucky, you stick everything back in the oven to reheat and do it all again for dinner.

Then you go home. It's back to the drudgery of everyday life. Thanksgiving comes that once per year, and once its gone it becomes so very easy to ignore the good things in our lives. Even before you eat the last bowl of turkey soup, the uplifting feelings caused by remembering and sharing so many blessings have faded away. If you run into a streak of bad events, likely as not you will have a very hard time seeing that there are any silver linings to these dark clouds. Daily life can take on the dull patina of negativity that was polished away in November.

For that reason, I propose we have Thanksgiving once per week. You don't have to bake a turkey or make tons of pies. You don't have to drive hundreds of miles. You don't even have to leave your own house. Instead, spend some time with someone you care about discussing the good things that have happened to both of you in the past week. Even if you've had a rotten week, you can find something worth celebrating. If nothing else, you got through the last week alive. With practice, you'll likely start to notice these little things as they happen, rather than just remembering them later. The next time you feel as if nothing in your life is going right, just remember: It's Thanksgiving, and you need to take a little time to celebrate your blessings, even if it's a little hard to see them at first glance. You'll be glad you did.

When you're done counting your blessings, email the total to lyle@yahoo.com

most campus newspapers like Technician were not.

FORUM

Continued from Page 6

Reparations or freedom of speech?

Sadly, Technician has joined the leftist cause to burn Horowitz at the stake. In its March 19 editorial, "Black listing," Technician says, "The notion of whether or not reparations are [sic] good idea is completely sidelined by the obtuse idiosyncy of Horowitz's so-called arguments. In the end, his goal of ending reparations possibility is defeated by his very means to that goal."

Similar to campus newspapers that made apologies for printing "Ten Reasons," Technician predictably gives a half-baked argument to denounce it lest Technician's liberal pages be tainted with "racist" heresy. Lamentably, the only purpose behind "Ten Reasons" is to help students see reparations from a perspective other than the left wing. Nevertheless, Technician bashes it along with almost every other campus that published it.

One paper, the *Badger-Herald* of the University of Wisconsin at Madison, chose not to apologize for "Ten Reasons." Consequently, its editor and staff were branded as "racist" by another UW newspaper. Furthermore, papers at UC-Berkeley, which printed the article, were stolen and burned by left-wing protesters.

Despite Technician's dismissal of "Ten Reasons" as "obscure idiosyncy," it is extremely important to understand that Horowitz has no intention of "ending reparations possibility." In fact, his central purpose is to "encourage diverse views" for a "controversial issue."

He actually wrote the article in response to a Chicago City Council decision to support reparations where the vote was 47-1. "This is not democracy," Horowitz said. He believed "reparations" adversaries were scared into silence, and thus he spoke up for them. He sent the message out, suspecting that universities would be receptive to an alternate opinion. However, to his utter disappointment,

most campus newspapers like Technician were not. It is possible to go point by point and defend "Ten Reasons," but this isn't about whether or not reparations are feasible. It's about freedom of speech. In the 1600's, people were burned for having their own opinion about religion. In the 1940's, people were black listed when associated with communism. Similarly, as Horowitz has illustrated, people are denounced today as "racist" or "obtusely idiotic" for even associating themselves with an opinion against reparations.

Jonathan Smith
Freshman
English

Colombian government 'corrupt'

I cannot let Juan Pedraza's perspective on Colombia go unchallenged. While the Guerrilla warriors of Colombia are not without fault in that country of misery, the government and death squads (auto-defense groups) must accept much responsibility. The Colombian government is notoriously corrupt and influenced by the drug lords. The previous president of the nation, Carlos Samper has been documented to have accepted millions from the drug cartels. Pablo Escobar, the famous drug king, went into alliance with the government and put himself under house arrest, in his own house. Then he simply fled. The government did nothing, and could do nothing, because drug cartels have infiltrated every Colombian institution. It is not an exaggeration to say that calling the paramilitary forces "self defense committees" is like calling the Klu Klux Klan "community protectors." In a skewed sense this is true, but the question is, "by whose community?" In the case of the KKK they are protecting rural white communities that oppress and degrade the black community at every turn. In the case of the Colombian Klu Klux Klan they are protecting the community of prosperous elite planters and drug dealers from the community of their poor, and often native workers. I do not feel this is hyperbole. The recent step up in

...But need improvement



Larisa Yasnovskaya
STAFF COLUMNIST

The debate about school vouchers (or however such a program may be called) has been raging for years and has now newly resurfaced with Bush's proposal for such a plan. School vouchers would basically provide parents of children in failing schools the money that would pay for them in the public to be used in a private school of the parents' choice instead. Sounds like a good idea. Give the child another chance at a good school and give the parents the right to choose the school their child attends.

However vouchers hurt the entire school system considerably more than they could ever benefit a single child because they are a short-sited solution to a long-term problem. Think about this rationally: money would be taken from a school that is failing and given to the parent to send their kid to a private school. This poses a slew of issues.

First of all, we would be taking money away from a school that obviously needs it. And this is not done as incentive; it's supposed to be punishment for a school that fails to meet standards. The obvious question that arises is if the school is losing money how is it supposed to find the resources to bring their standards up to par? Thus, as the children leave, and there are no resources to fix the school it will simply have to shut down. Most of these schools are inner city and poor schools that will leave economically

struggling children with no opportunities.

But wait, they can use that money to go to private school, which is better, right? Ideally, however, in reality a good private school costs considerably more than the voucher value that poor parents would get. In actuality, parents would have to have a substantial amount of money to begin with to send their kids to private school. As a result, this program only helps the rich, or at least the well off, who have the additional resources for this program to work.

In addition, there is absolutely nothing that guarantees that all who apply will be accepted into the private school. Those schools decide for themselves who will accept and may choose to discriminate on any number of things such as disability and previous performance (which is what accounts for their better scores, only the kids who perform well attend those schools). So, if the kids are coming from a failing school, their performance will not be sufficient to get them into a good private school, even if they could afford it.

Then, if they could somehow afford it and manage to qualify grade-wise, the school can only reject them based on their religious persuasion because 85 percent of private schools are sectarian. Funding these schools obviously violates the establishment clause of the First Amendment. This is usually where the argument that parents who send their children to private school should not have to pay a "double tax" for schools. That argument is completely flawed because those parents do not pay a double tax, private school is just another expense that they choose to incur. After all, childless couples and single people pay the school tax, but just the price we pay for living in a

society.

In actuality, the school vouchers would inflict a double tax, one for the public school system and one for the private one.

There is also the ever-increasing argument that competition will increase performance, after all, it works for the rest of the world (or does it?). However, competition implies that there are winners and losers. Has capitalist individualism gone so far as to suggest that children should compete for their education? Such a program, contrary to the president's theory, will leave many children behind. Besides, the playing field is not equal because most religious private schools receive extra funds from their respective religious establishments. Also, having children struggle in a competitive market reduces them to economic beings, stripping them of their basic and essential humanity.

School vouchers are a personal and not a community solution, and where public education is concerned the greater public good should be the first and foremost priority. And I don't want to sound too sappy or anything, but the children really are the future, we cannot afford to have them compete for it, we have to provide them with equal footing by improving public schools across the board and especially the struggling ones that need help most.

If vouchers will be in effect by the time Larisa has kids, she will use your tax dollars to send her children to a Satanic private school. Try to save her kids from your tax dollars at larisas_opinion@hotmail.com.

WRITE TO CAMPUS FORUM. EMAIL OPED1@HOTMAIL.COM. INCLUDE YOUR NAME, MAJOR AND YEAR. 400-WORD LIMIT. THANKS FOR COOPERATING.

FORUM II

Continued from Page 9

rhetoric about Colombia is not about immigration. It is about a war that the United States is taking a larger and larger role in with the promulgation of the \$1.3 billion Plan Colombia. This money is being spent to buy U.S.-made helicopters to more efficiently hunt down poor Colombian farmers. Some of the Colombian soldiers are being trained in Fayetteville at Fort Bragg.

Gabe Talon
Senior
History

'The CIA subsidized drug trade'

Having read Juan Pedraza's Monday column "Exodus," I became duly concerned about his characterization of the Latin-American drug trade as rooted in Marxist guerrilla organizations. The United States' own government records show an explicit connection between anti-communist forces and the drug trade. Consistently, the CIA has "protected" its "assets" around the globe through interagency conflict with the Drug Enforcement Agency. The CIA subsidized the drug trade in Burma, Afghanistan, and in various Latin-American nations, including the extremely well documented efforts involving the Nicaraguan contras.

David Rosnick
Doctoral Student
Computer Science

Judging Wapner

Editor's Note: Because of the nature of the content, the word limit has been waived.

After reading Paul Wapner's forum

letter ("NCSU violates housing contract," March 9), I felt it necessary to inform readers of the facts. In Wolfwise, NCSU's academic planner, it states, "students responsible for damages to residence hall furnishings, structures, or equipment will be charged the appropriate labor and material for the expenses incurred. Charges for loss or damages, which cannot be assessed to a particular individual, will be charged against the residential unit (floor or suite) responsible." This includes suite doors. As Wapner stated, suite doors are considered fire doors. Wolfwise also states, "students whose behaviors compromise student safety are subject to disciplinary action." One of the behaviors mentioned was "tampering with or misusing (whether accidental or intentional) any fire/safety equipment." University Housing policies and regulations published in the Wolfwise planner are also a part of the Residence Hall Agreement (obtainable through the University Housing office and its homepage). The 2000-2001 agreement also states, "housing may make changes in official administrative policies as deemed necessary in the interest of health, safety and discipline, or for educational purposes, and students shall abide by such changes in policies."

The building security policy is basically the same as what Wapner stated. However, the community assistants who operate the 24-hour desk in Metcalf Hall could stop every individual who tries to enter the building without a key, and unescorted guests would still invade the building. There are three other doors located outside the view of the 24-hour desk in which unauthorized guests enter. Residents constantly open the doors when someone knocks on them and are prompted by many individuals. Housing staff patrols the building on a regular basis to prevent this sort of thing, but they cannot prevent such entry through these doors while they have to concentrate their efforts around what is supposed to be the only door of entry for the building. Locked suite doors can be a hassle for

suite residents and their guests, but they are nothing close to "unfair," as Wapner described. The doors are an added security for those residents who reside in suites. In looking at the university's "Personal Safety: It's Shared Responsibility" booklet, there were nine reported cases of aggravated assault and 10 reported cases of burglary in residence halls during 1999. These are only the reported cases. Few people on this campus realize the extremity of vandalism, assault and theft that occur because of the vast number of people who share the same old attitude as Wapner. If only the people who reside in these residence halls would respect the safety measures in place for their own well-being, they might actually enjoy the safe environment University Housing strives to give them.

Kristin King
Junior
Math Education

Estate Tax 'leveled the playing field'

I disagree with your March 11 piece in the *News & Observer* opposing the estate tax ("Death tax is capital punishment," March 6). One of your concerns was family farms, and I have heard similar arguments concerning the estate tax and family businesses. In fact, the vitality of the small business sector can be traced in part to the estate tax, enacted in 1916. By preventing a handful of families from passing great wealth from generation to generation, the estate tax has leveled the playing field and allowed new businesses to compete and succeed. And, according to IRS reports, of the 2.3 million people who died in 1998, only 780 left an estate with significant business assets. There are special estate tax rules for family farms and businesses:

- Farmland can be valued at 45 percent to 75 percent of fair market price.
- Taxes can be paid over 14 years, at interest rates as low as four percent.

• Family-business couples can exempt \$2.6 million from taxes (with planning, businesses can exempt \$5 million; farms, \$8 million).

Even these provisions could be improved. In 2000, for example, the U.S. Senate rejected a Democratic proposal to triple the family business/farm exemption to \$4 million for individuals, \$8 million for couples. That reform would have exempted the vast majority of businesses that currently pay estate taxes. Syracuse entrepreneur Martin Rothenberg says (*Philadelphia Inquirer*, 9/7/00), "I was able to build a successful software company thanks to the support of public schools, public scholarships, public research grants, and public contracts. The last thing I want to do is pull up the ladder behind me so that others can't get those same kinds of support to succeed." Anyone concerned about the health of our family farms and businesses should be in favor of the estate tax.

Ann Sink
Durham, North Carolina

Easley, State fail

In an unprecedented occurrence, Republican Wake Co. Judge Howard Manning stayed the execution of one Willie Fisher at 11:10 p.m. Thursday, March 8, less than three hours before Fisher's scheduled execution. Fisher's execution was only temporarily postponed, though: Attorney General Roy Cooper appealed Manning's stay at approximately 1 a.m. on March 9, and the appeal was granted, the stay lifted at 4:45 a.m. the same morning by the General Assembly, ensuring the execution would proceed later that evening at 9 p.m.

The Legislative Study Commission, comprised of 24 members of the General Assembly, was appointed to study the current administration of capital punishment. They did so, and found flaws serious enough in its application to recommend an immediate moratorium on executions until such time as these

flaws could be thoroughly addressed and resolved. They also drafted the Moratorium Bill, currently being reviewed by the State Senate, which would suspend N.C. executions for two years.

Governor Easley defied the recommendation of these experts, when he refused to stay the execution of Willie Fisher, as more or less told to do so by the Legislative Commission.

Some of the concerns the Commission had with their findings were (a) the presence of racism in the practice of capital punishment. For example, according to a 1990 study by Gross & Mauro, those who murder Caucasians are four times more likely to be sentenced to death than those found guilty of the murder of minorities; (b) an utter lack of competent defense counsel in capital cases, also highlighted by the American Bar Association in its 1997 resolution calling for a halt to all executions in the United States, for similar reasons as those of the N.C. Commission; (c) the risk of executing innocent people. Since the reinstatement of capital punishment in 1977, 95 people have been convicted and sentenced to death only to then have their sentences vacated and be released from prison, when it was discovered they were actually innocent. Of these 95, only ten were exonerated due to evidence resulting from DNA testing. As of yet, no criteria have been implemented to allow access to DNA evidence for those standing trial.

Yet still, despite all this, a moratorium on N.C. executions is yet to be issued. Furthermore, executions are still being scheduled, and stayed, less than three hours before planned to proceed. Whether the State and Governor will continue to allow executions to be planned remains to be seen.

Aaron Jacobson
Junior
Philosophy

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63					64				65	

ACROSS

- Crock
- Heavenly body
- Spigots
- Past
- Spouse
- College course (abbr.)
- Shooting star
- Chemist's room, for short
- Direction (abbr.)
- Average (abbr.)
- Head covering
- Morning moisture
- Tardy
- Tariff
- Finish
- Contraction
- Over (poetic)
- 9 a.m.
- Personal pronoun
- Courage
- Morning (abbr.)
- Verbal fight
- Age
- lac. toe
- Impersonal pronoun
- Sly, fee
- Closing musical passage
- Male child
- Pretend
- Cowly
- All right
- Str
- Easy
- Lazy Susan
- Teas
- Robert E. ___
- Heaven's ___
- Tidy
- Hearing organ

DOWN

- Traffic ___
- Lifetime
- Turn
- California fog
- Sailor
- Near
- Take it easy
- Flap
- Article
- Window
- Worry
- Night
- Be verb
- Crop
- Beetle
- City in Peru
- Affirm
- Brewed drink
- 26 Iron
- 29 Epoch
- 30 Put
- 31 Men's organization (abbr.)
- 33 Conjunction
- 34 Pitcher's stat
- 37 Alcoholic drink
- 39 Fall
- 41 Oak nut
- 42 Engine part
- 43 Drinkards
- 49 Resort
- 50 Meadow
- 51 Ever (poetic)
- 53 Northwest state (abbr.)
- 55 For example (abbr.)

ACROSS

- Regretful exclamation
- Terminate
- 8 Urldity
- Business symbol
- Neither
- Egg-shaped
- 15 Praise
- Wood varmint
- Bravo
- 20 Direction (abbr.)
- Morning moisture
- 22 Intelligence
- 25 Wise man
- 27 Actinium symbol
- 28 Slump
- Rumba
- 33 Medical men (slang)
- 36 Snake
- 38 Pack away
- 39 Slow animal
- 41 Completed
- 43 Personal pronoun
- 44 One-ied
- 46 Missive
- 49 Hawaiian food
- 51 Iron
- 53 Mistake
- 54 Lost memory
- 56 Greek drink (pl.)
- 59 Hammer head
- 60 Fire residue
- 62 Farmer's measure
- 63 Bet
- 64 Alkaline solution
- 65 Exam

DOWN

- Tavern drink
- Smoked salmon
- Seaweed
- Hard
- Printer's measure
- Memo
- Put on clothes
- Mother
- Obvious
- 22 Lumps
- 11 Killed
- 18 Hammer, for example
- 16 Persuade
- 55 Direction (abbr.)
- 57 Ph.D.'s
- 58 Put
- 61 Male pronoun

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DOUBLE
double

CROSSWORDS

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double
DOUBLE
CROSSWORDS

IM/RecNotes

Intramurals

To find out your basketball tournament and softball schedule and results, visit the Intramural-Recreational Sports Web site at www.fis.ncsu.edu/pe/misport-snewhtml or stop by 1000 Carmichael Gymnasium.

If you are interested in participating in intramural sports, call 515-3161 for more information.

Club sports — upcoming events

The club bowling team will travel to Downingtown, Pa., this weekend for the College Bowl USA sectional qualifying tournament. The top four teams in each of four sectionals will qualify for the National Tournament. Sixteen men's and women's teams will participate this weekend.

The cricket club will host its second six-a-side Day and Night cricket tournament this weekend at the Miller Fields. The tournament will be held from 6-8:30 p.m. Friday and from 1-8:30 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

A total of nine teams will participate in the tournament, including the defending champion N.C.

State Seniors

The games will be fast-paced and will allow spectators to enjoy cricket at its exciting best. The rules of cricket have been modified to make it easier for newcomers to pick up the sport. Games are not expected to extend beyond an hour each, and players will discard their traditional cricket whites to don colored clothing. White balls will be used in place of the red cricket ball.

Admission is free, and any person interested in learning the game is strongly encouraged to attend. For more information, contact Studep Tholasingham at 755-6033 or by e-mail at studep@hotmail.com.

The Official's Association will be sending Pete Whitesides and Jason Check to Chapel Hill this weekend to officiate for the "Hill on the Hill" This five-on-five basketball tournament will feature teams from across the region. One official from this tournament will advance to the national tournament.

Informal recreation

Registration for the upcoming Wildlife tournament, which will be held March 30 at 5 p.m., began this week and will close on March

28. Register in 1000 Carmichael Gymnasium. Badminton will be on courts 4, 6 and 8 on Friday. Drop in and participate in Informal Recreation.

Fitness

All aerobics classes are drop-in, so come out and join us. Stop by the Intramural-Recreational Sports office or call 515-3161 for more information.

The Time Management: Part II workshop will be held Tuesday. Registration for this fitness workshop is ongoing.

Outdoor adventures

Registration is going on now for the Wilderness Cooking workshop, which will be held April 17 from 3:30 to 7:30 p.m. Stop by 1000 Carmichael Gymnasium to register.

Job opportunities

Anyone interested in working for Intramural-Recreational Sports can stop by the department's office in 1000 Carmichael Gymnasium to complete an application.

NOTES

Continued from Page 12

Championships Wednesday through.

Field set for Schenkel E-Z-GO Invitational

The N.C. State men's golf team will receive another stern test when it competes in the 2001 Schenkel E-Z-GO Invitational, set for Saturday and Sunday at Forest Heights Country Club in Statesboro, Ga.

The tournament, in its third year as the Schenkel E-Z-GO Invitational, will feature 10 of the top 21 teams in the nation and 13 of the top 19 players, according to the latest MasterCard Collegiate Golf Rankings, the only published collegiate golf rankings.

"On behalf of the tournament committee, we're extremely pleased to announce the 2001 Schenkel E-Z-GO Invitational will feature our best field ever," Schenkel Committee chairman Billy Griffith said. "We're especially proud that the Schenkel will once again draw many of the strongest teams from throughout the country."

The Schenkel, which returned in 1999 after a nine-year absence,

will include 35 players currently ranked in the top 100 in the nation. Thirteen of the 15 teams that make up the Schenkel field are ranked in the NCAA's top 50, including three of the top six — No. 1 Georgia, No. 2 Clemson and No. 6 South Carolina. The Bulldogs, who already won two tournament wins this season, are the defending Schenkel champions, while Clemson claimed the 1999 Schenkel title.

More impressively, eight of the nation's top 10 players are expected to compete. Clemson's Lucas Glover and John Engler, the No. 2 and 3 ranked players, as well as No. 4 Kyle Thompson (South Carolina), No. 5 Chris Wisler (East Tennessee State), No. 6 Ryan Hybl (Georgia), No. 8 Jamie Elson (Augusta State), No. 9 David Sanchez (North Carolina State) and No. 10 Luke Donald (Northwestern), the 1999 NCAA individual champion, are scheduled to take part in the 54-hole event.

"These kind of numbers get your attention," said Griffith. "You realize these are the best players in college golf. We think the media and fans alike will have an opportunity to watch the strongest field of any college golf tournament in the country, and at the same time see some future professionals."

GODFREY

Continued from Page 12

every year since 1980. As recently as 1995, there have been four ACC teams alive in the third round.

Either UNC or Duke has been to the Final Four every year since 1986, save 1987 and 1996. Count Georgia Tech's appearance in 1990, and that's 15 appearances by three different ACC teams in 17 years. Next best: The Big Ten and SEC, each with 10 appearances.

So discuss Madonna's new music video, whether Eminem is racist. Dispute the Greenspan economic influence or whether the Bush Tax Plan can pass. But don't discount, disregard or dispute that the ACC is college basketball's class.

Rob Godfrey's columns appear on Wednesdays. He can be reached at 515-2411 or dewhirlie@aol.com.

Back the Pack

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Veterinary Assistant (FT or half-time) needed for ultra well-equipped small animal hospital 1.5 miles east of Raleigh. Successful applicant will learn intubation, venipuncture, catheter placement, and dental radiology technique. Ideal position for pre-veterinary student on sub-batchical or out-of-state student trying to establish residency. Call Dr. Mike at 553-4601.

Opportunity
Absolutely free info! Internet users wanted. \$2000-\$5000/month. www.justforu20.net

Wanted

MUSICIANS WANTED. Vocalist, Rapper/songwriter starting eccentric, original, top band in N.C. Funk-based with jazz, hip-hop, pop/rock. Dedication a must! Email newfunkband@aol.com.

Classifieds Deadlines

Around Campus

Mirror Of Relationships. Videotaped talk by J. Krishnamurti followed by dialogue. Wednesday, March 21, Talley Student Center, NCSU. Room 3123, 4-5:30pm. Contact Neeru Singh 859-6301

Join Campus Toastmasters! Weekly meetings Fridays, 12-10pm, D.H. Hill facility Senate Room. Improve your public speaking skills. Great resume builder! Great Leadership! Check out www.toastmasters.org

Global Gatherings: Social coffee hour for Americans & internationals. Global Village coffeehouse (next to Manhattan Gate) EVERY Thursday, 4-5pm.

For Sale

MOUNTAIN BIKE- GT XCR 5000 w/ drive F-R suspension, and bars. 8 speed shift, 1 year old. \$550. call 851-6946.

3BR Falcon Ridge Townhouse. Available May \$1100/mo. 462-5243-460-1800.

Near NCSU 5347 Wayne St. (Off Jones Franklin Rd.) 2BR/2BA. Fireplace, W.D. no pets, water included. \$675. 870-6871.

New 4BR/4A townhomes for rent. Clubhouse with tanning beds and fitness center. Available Aug. 2001. Call 828-6278. www.universitiesites.net

Apartment for rent at Lake Park \$1200 rent. Starting in 4 plus utilities. Drive by 462-4576. Call Matt Schrader Properties 872-5676.

Roommates Wanted
www.easyroommate.com
100's of Rooms Roommates
The Napster for roommates
FREE to search! FREE to place your ad!
Immediate Online Results.
Some w/ Photos.
www.easyroommate.com

FREE ROOM.
Share 2BR/2.5BA townhouse w young laid back professional 1 block from N.C. State, in exchange for light domestic help. Approx 30 hours/month. 821-4466.

2 roommates wanted for Lake Park Condo next semester (August, 01). \$325/mo. 1/4 utilities each. Call Adam if interested. 851-9388.

Modern home near fairgrounds. Quiet neighborhood. No smoking, no pets. \$980/month - 1 1/2 utilities. Call 233-4612.

Roommate needed for summer and/or 2001/2002 school year. University Glen, 4BR/4BA, furnished, Wolline, \$336.25/month + 1 1/2 utilities. Call Brandon or Chris @ 828-6709.

Room for Rent
3 rooms available with separate bathrooms on 2nd floor at University Woods. \$350/mo. 1 year lease. Internet. Call Tiffany at 754-0855.

Three rooms available, 2nd floor, with separate bathrooms at University Commons on the Wolline on Gorman St. Females only. \$350 per month. Call 828-1111

Sublease bedroom in 2BR apartment \$300 + 1/3 utilities. Start mid or June. Through workroom. 941-4642. Pool, washer, dryer.

Condos For Rent
4BR/4BA condo available in University Commons for fall rental. W/D, microwave. \$310 per month. 919-395-3495.

4BR condos at Lake Park, each with own bath, shower, and closet. Common living room and fully-equipped kitchen. W/D, microwave. Cable TV. Swimming pool, volleyball and basketball courts. Ideal for 4 students. \$325-345/student depending on condo. Near NCSU, Meredith, and St. Mary's. Off Ovent Ferry, near Gorman. Contract starting May or August. Call 919-859-0486.

1976 Landcruiser FJ40, 30 HP 350, 4 speed 4x4, soft top, excellent condition. \$6,000, call 299-2891 after 7pm.

Motorcycles & ATVs
Black Honda Elite scooter, 1999 2-seater 80 cc, like new. 425 miles. \$1500. 362-1477.

Services
Black Honda Elite scooter, 1999 2-seater 80 cc, like new. 425 miles. \$1500. 362-1477.

Publish Your Works For \$1,295

Textbooks, Novels, and More. Call FirstPublish, Inc. at 888-707-7634. Or visit www.firstpublish.com

Child Care
Summer sitter needed, 12 & 6 year olds. Cary-Scottish Hills area. Pool available. References required. Salary negotiable. Call 947-5593 or email sll4us@aol.com

Childcare companion/driver needed for 12-year-old boy. Monday-Friday, 3-5pm. Excellent pay, paid vacation. Call Marc @ 832-1099.

Help Wanted
Day Camp and resident camps near Chapel Hill seeks energetic and highly qualified camp staff. Program specialists needed in the areas of canoeing, lifeguarding, WSI, Environmental Ed., Arts and Crafts, and sports. General counselors needed with skills in cooking, camp/outdoor skills, drama and singing. On site housing is available. Call Camp New Hope at (919) 942-4716 for application.

Petland petstore has full and part time positions available in sales or animal care. Hourly + bonus, 15 mins from campus. Shoppes of Kildaire, 481-6614.

CONSUMER EDUCATOR Part-time, Flexible Schedule! \$10/hour. Have fun while you educate people in need of energy about the benefits of Red Bull Energy Drink! Promotions will take place in Raleigh at athletic clubs/events, colleges, nightclubs, concerts, etc... Must be outgoing, high-energy, enthusiastic, have excellent communication skills, maintain a valid driver's license & a good driving record. Visit our website at www.promovers.com

Send resumes to the attention of Jennifer via fax: 775-828-8998 or e-mail: nardelle@promovers.com

Now hiring PT Telemarketer. Flexible hours. Call Carole at Jillian's at 833-6792.

Lifeguards needed: Manager and Asst. Manager. Must have current lifeguard certification. Excellent pay. New facility. Cary-Apex area. Position begins May 2001. Aqua Kieer, Inc. Call 917-7433 (pager) or 851-3032 (home).

University Directories, the nation's largest publisher of campus telephone directories, is hiring for 2 positions - Customer Relations Representative and Customer Operations Associate for the summer. CSR's should be articulate, enthusiastic, organized, and professional. Customer Service experience and computer skills are helpful. COAs should be detail-oriented. Also, Customer Service experience and thorough, professional and be able to work alone as well as on a team. Basic Computer and Accounting skills are a plus. For more information, please contact, recruitment@coadirectories.com or ext 173 or visit our website at www.universitydirectories.com

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1 day \$400	2 days \$600
3 days \$800	4 days \$900
5 days \$1100	6 days \$2,000/day

Non-Student	
1 day \$700	2 days \$1100
3 days \$1100	4 days \$2,200
5 days \$2,500	6+ days \$450/day

Call 515-2829 or Fax 515-5133

between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. to place an ad with you or Masthead

Found Ads

Spring Break is over, it's time to look for a SUMMER JOB! We have a variety of part-time jobs available. We pay \$8.00/hr. We offer health insurance provided. Griffs camp near Greensboro, NC. Counselors, program staff, health supervisor and business manager needed. Keyuawei@aol.com or 338-861-1198

Part-time gym help needed. Late morning and afternoon hours available. Close to campus. Experience a plus. Fun job and great atmosphere. Call Rob at 882-2282.

PT marketing and sales position. Make your own schedule. \$10-\$15/hr plus bonuses. 919-260-9969 kerc@msn.com

READING/MATH TUTOR: Are you a junior or senior who has tutoring experience and loves working with kids? Sylvan Learning Center in Cary is looking for PT tutors, 2 evenings/week. Call Michele. 858-8103.

NOW HIRING SAMMY'S TAP & GRILL (Formerly UPPER DECK 2) is now hiring day cooks, including one position 1-2pm plus servers. Very flexible schedules, work in a fun, high energy, professional environment. 2235 Avent Ferry Road-Between Bruers Bagles & Burger King.

RALEIGHWOOD: Great movies, food, and spirits. The Mountain's only true unique restaurant. Now hiring wait staff, line bartenders, kitchen staff, ticket takers. Experience preferred but we will train. Let us "show you the money". We will work around your schedule. Call for interview. 847-9370. www.raleighwood.citysearch.com

RIDE HORSES IN COLORADO! Be a part of the exciting riding staff at Girl Scout overnight camp SW of Denver. Must have recent experience riding and teaching basic skills. Competitive salary, room, board, travel allowance. Late May-early August 2001. Call 303-778-0109 x 281 or email: rhondan@gsmhc.org

LIVE AND WORK IN COLORADO! Be a CAMP COUNSELOR at Girl Scout overnight camp in the mountains SW of Denver. General counselor and program specialists. horseback riding, hiking, backpacking, crafts, nature, challenge course, farm, dance, drama. Administrative positions also available. June-early August 2001. MAKE A DIFFERENCE! Competitive salary, room, board, travel allowance. Call 303-778-0109 x281 or email: rhondan@gsmhc.org

BARTENDERS NEEDED! Earn \$16-30/hr. Job placement assistance is provided. Raleigh's Bartending School. Call now for information about half-price tuition special. Offer ends

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SPRINTING towards Raleigh Relays

◆ N.C. State's track teams visit North Carolina Saturday with next week's Raleigh Relays on the horizon.

Todd Lion
Staff Writer

N.C. State's track and field teams are treating this weekend's meet at North Carolina as a tune-up for the end of the season and next week-end's Raleigh Relays.

"Our main goal through the season is to prepare people for the conference championships, but at the same time we have to prepare them for big meets during the season," said head coach Rollie Geiger. "Raleigh Relays is the weekend after this, so anything we run right now is just in preparation for these two meets."

Most of State's distance squad is planning on running the 5,000- or 10,000-meter runs at Raleigh Relays and, as a result, will rest this weekend in preparation for it. Dean Bowker, Nick Mangum, David Patterson, Devin Swann and Scott Wirgaw will be the only runners from the cross country team participating this weekend. They will be running the shorter, middle-

distance events to prepare for the 5,000 at Raleigh Relays.

Bowker competed in the 3,000-meter run last weekend at Charlotte and placed ninth with a time of 8 minutes, 30 seconds.

"We are not going over to Chapel Hill with our full team," said Geiger. "Basically this meet is just preparation for the rest of the season. Having said that, some of our athletes won't be running at all and others will be running 'off' events because we are focusing our season on the conference championships."

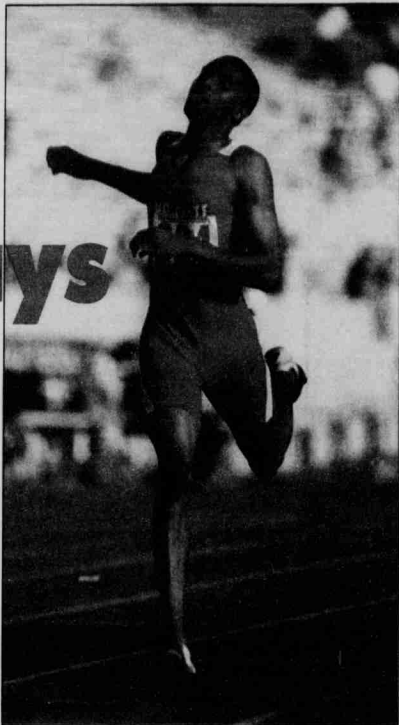
Zach Whitlow and David Kessler will compete in the pole vault for the Wolfpack. Kessler missed last season due to a back injury and is just starting to regain his form. Whitlow is also coming off of injury.

"Both of these guys will be rusty right now, but it's nice to have some scoring potential in that area," said assistant coach Gail Olsen. "As the season progresses, I expect these two to start playing a significant role for the team."

Brandon Brown will be State's top performer in the high jump. Brown suffered a broken leg last year and is still in the early stages of recovery from that.

Freshman Monterrio Adams, who also suffered a small injury during the indoor season, will run the 200- and 400-meter sprints this weekend. Last weekend, Adams placed 10th in the 200 and 20th in the 100 out of 55 runners in each event.

Atlantic Coast Conference indoor champion Isaiah



Tyrone Dozier and the Wolfpack take on North Carolina Saturday.

Oglesby will compete in the hammer throw. Oglesby won the 35-pound weight throw indoors at the conference championships and placed 16th at NCAAs in that event.

"Isaiah threw well last weekend in the hammer, but he really decided to throw at the last minute," said Olsen. "He should really open up this weekend, and we'll see what he can do. There's a big difference between the indoor weight throw and the outdoor hammer, so he's still adjusting to that."

The women's distance team will be following the same strategy as the men's in preparation for next weekend's Raleigh Relays.

Beth Kraft, Molly Purser, Melinda Dubose, Sara Graybill and Janelle Vadnais will be competing in the middle-distance events as a tune-up for their longer events next week.

Vadnais competed in the 3,000 last weekend and placed third with a time of 10:15.

"We worked the runners pretty hard last week," Geiger said. "We gave them Friday through Tuesday off from the program, but hit them with workouts on Wednesday,

Thursday and Friday. But you have to remember where we're really heading with this. Everything we do is aimed at running well in late April, when it really counts."

Junior Katie Bolac set a new school record in the pole vault last weekend with a height of 12 feet, besting the old record by seven inches. Bolac will compete in this event for the Pack this weekend. Annemarie Clark will join Bolac in the pole vault while also running the 200 and 400.

Felicia Fant will run the 100- and 200-meter dashes. Fant, a freshman, placed fifth in the 200 last weekend with a time of 25.61 seconds.

Desiree Mittman will triple jump this weekend after a disappointing competition last weekend where she did not record a jump due to fouls.

"She is doing well technically," said Olsen. "When you get away from running your approach for a couple of weeks, everything changes. She will be fine this weekend, though."

basketball

In defense of the ACC

Bashing men's basketball of the Atlantic Coast Conference is in.

It's cost-free, cheaper than a new SUV. It's fashionable (just ask David Scott of ACCToday.com), stylish like Neiman

Marcus.

But is it just? Has the Atlantic Coast Conference lost its competitive edge in men's basketball? Is there hope



Rob Godfrey

that, in the immediate future, the conference, once feared and respected by all of college basketball, will regain lost luster? No. No. And Yes.

Green-eyed criticism, widely propagated and mostly unsubstantiated, of the East Coast conference that gave basketball Everett Case, Dean Smith and Mike Krzyzewski is a cheery fad. And once the ACC has its first shining moment in eight seasons, less than two weeks from now in Minneapolis, it will be out like the slap bracelet.

Without reservation, the ACC, top to bottom, is a step behind the Big Ten and Southeastern Conference according to the Ratings Percentage Index.

The RPI — combining strength of schedule, margin of victory and overall record — is a formula similar to the one used by the NCAA Tournament Selection Committee in mapping out its March tournament. Duke, North Carolina and Maryland are the ACC's only teams in the RPI top 30.

Comparatively, six Big Ten teams and five SEC teams are top 30. Big Ten, Pac-10 and SEC schools all have won national championships since an ACC team reigned immortal on Monday night (1993, UNC).

These are indisputable facts that make a case for ACC mediocrity. Well, not so much for mediocrity as just for ACC mortality. Three conferences, at least, have caught the ACC — maybe even surpassed it — on paper. But this is, after all, basketball, a game among sports without rules that differentiate good from great. Judgments and interpretations of basketball rules are left to referees on the court and fans off the court.

Therefore, subjectively, the ACC boasts several basketball superlatives.

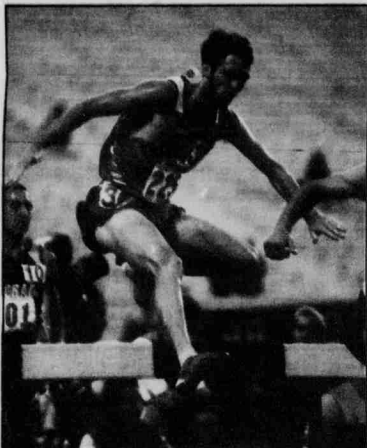
Krzyzewski is basketball's most visible and most vocal coach. He's the best active coach in college basketball; some say he's one of the greatest of all-time. His 52 NCAA Tournament wins are second all-time, while his two national championships, eight Final Fours, nine Elite Eights and 12 Sweet 16s are tops among active coaches.

The three best college basketball players in the country this season are ACC players. Joseph Forte, Shane Battier and Jason Williams are all first-team All-Americans.

The four best college basketball players of the past five seasons have come from the ACC. Tim Duncan (1997), Antawn Jamison (1998), Elton Brand (1999) and Battier (2001) all collected national player of the year awards.

Not that there isn't a case for ACC supremacy on paper, like the ones for the Big Ten, SEC and Pac-10. By and large, the ACC doesn't flounder come NCAA Tournament time. In fact, it's still the most powerful come March and early April. Consider the following hard facts:

There have been at least two ACC teams in the Sweet 16



Chris Dugan, who finished 11th in the 3,000-meter run at the NCAA Indoor Championships, leads the track team.

WolfpackNotes

State-Howard baseball game rained out

The game scheduled for Tuesday afternoon between N.C. State and Howard was rained out.

The game will be made up on Wednesday as a doubleheader beginning at 3 p.m. at Doak Field, weather permitting. State and Howard will play one nine-inning game and one seven-inning game. State originally was scheduled to play The Citadel Wednesday, but the game with the Bulldogs has been canceled.

Gymnastics places 14 on EAGL All-Academic Team

The N.C. State gymnastics team put 14 of its 22 members on the 2001 East Atlantic Gymnastics League All-Academic Team. The Wolfpack landed more student-athletes on the team than any other conference school.

Seniors Kara Charles and Sara Dolan were named to the EAGL All-Academic Team for the fourth year in a row.

State returns to action Saturday at Chapel Hill for the EAGL Championship meet. The Pack has won the event two years in a row.

ROTC pistol team headed to national championships

March is a month for pursuing national championships in college athletics. That's no different for the N.C. State Naval ROTC pistol team.

Team captain Tony Bean and Wolfpack shooters Braulio Lopez, Darren Montgomery, Jason Bane and Keade Faires will be among the top 15 pistol teams in the nation taking aim at the title of national champions. The team will travel to Tom Lowe Olympic Range in Atlanta to compete at the National Collegiate Pistol

See NOTES, Page 11

See GODFREY, Page 11

