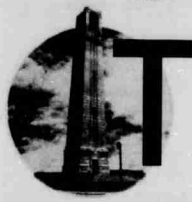


4. **Shark attack!**  
Opinion takes a bite out of the recent shark attacks. Who is to blame, man or shark?

6. **Cowboys**  
How does the newest western movie handle the lives and times of Frank and Jesse James?

12. **We've got Lee**  
Athletics Director Lee Fowler goes one-on-one with Sports.



Tuesday  
August 21, 2001

# TECHNICIAN

www.technicianonline.com

NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1920

Today	
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Tomorrow	
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L	67

## A heavy "C" swell highlights transportation changes

As another academic year begins, parking anxieties take center stage yet again.

Trey Godwin and  
Diane Cordova  
Staff Reporters

Oil and water aren't the only things that don't mix. Neither does N.C. State and parking. Just as students and faculty thought parking woes couldn't get any worse, the transportation department removed about 150 parking spaces across North Campus, which has created a higher demand on spaces throughout the remainder of campus.

According to Melissa Harden, assistant director for parking, the university's master plan is the driving force behind the changes. The plan calls for NCSU to have neighborhoods that are diverse in character, organized around attractive, lively open spaces and developed in ways that invite human interaction.

One of the most notable changes originating from the master plan is that the dense area of North Campus will eventually become a pedestrian campus only. But before NCSU takes care of its pedestrian concerns, the university must figure out how to curb commuters' concerns.

The epicenter of transportation's parking earthquake is Founders Drive. The new intermodal bus station on Founders Drive was expected to be completed by August 20.

The commuters that previously parked along Founders Drive will be relocated to other areas. "People holding permits for those spaces are forced to move to other sections of campus," said Hardy.

Therefore, parking areas toward the middle of North Campus, including the Coliseum deck and Cates Avenue, will have an increase in demand. In turn, lots toward the outskirts of campus, which

already have a 35 percent to 50 percent oversell rate, will get more crowded.

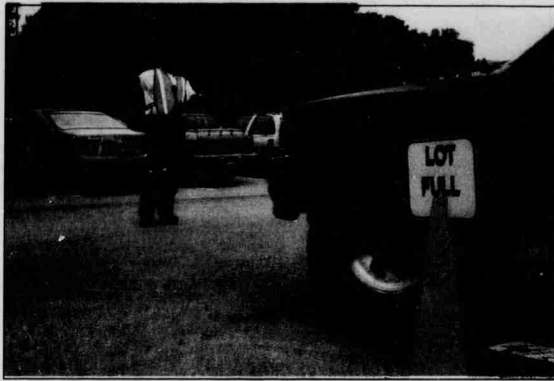
Moreover, if commuters decide to forgo all their parking options and take the Wolfline, it would lead to even more complaints from riders that the Wolfline isn't on time.

It seems like a no-win situation for students and faculty, but transportation is doing everything in their power to curb the affects of a parking shortage. In order to take the necessary measures to prepare for the parking influx in 2001-2002, transportation has changed a few lots to C parking or added C spaces to other zones.

For example, 140 spaces in the Dan Allen deck have been changed from DD to C to accommodate faculty who lost their spaces along Founders Drive. Also, the D lot behind the Darryl's on Hillsborough Street has been changed to a C lot because of numerous complaints from students that the lot was never fully occupied. C spaces have been added in the steam plant lot beside Carmichael Gymnasium and in front of Price Music Center as well.

The increase of C spaces, however, isn't as beneficial to faculty and graduate students as it appears at first glance. While it's inevitable that some spaces will be lost due to the wave of construction resulting from the bond referendum, transportation incorporated six C sub-zones to the newly-declared C spaces. This means that faculty and graduate students will still have a limited amount of C spaces to park. For instance, C6 is strictly limited to the steam plant lot, Dan Allen deck and Bragaw carriage lot.

Perhaps the biggest change in parking is the one that students noticed when they forked out more money than last year for their stickers. Last year, the



(above) Parking spaces are hard to find on campus. (left) A parking attendant issues a ticket.



ALL PHOTOS BY DYLAN WILSON/STAFF

Board of Trustees approved a fee increase of 5 percent to pay for an increase in maintaining spaces and for the initial design stages of a new 700-space parking deck that will stand to the west of the Coliseum deck.

Parking fees, along with a portion of NCSU's share of the bond money, will be enough to finance construction on the new deck in May of 2002, said Hardy. The 700 spaces will make up for the lost spaces from Founders Drive and an additional 120 spaces expected to be lost due to the construction of an undergraduate teaching laboratory beginning in January of 2002.

Away from the hubbub and traffic snarls of main campus, the parking problems have also grown considerably worse along NCSU's outskirts.

E.S. King Village parking lots will require a valid permit from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Friday. The previous enforcement times were 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. The extended hours are attributed to the fact that King residents were subjected to congested parking lots created by heavy traffic from those attending an Islamic mosque on the other side of Ligon Street and people that attend NCSU soccer games at

Method Road Stadium.

Large crowds attend services at the mosque on Friday evenings, and oftentimes they park in the King Village lots, which prohibit residents from parking in the lots. Occasionally, Harden said, the mosque visitors even block cars already parked in spaces. Because Method Road Stadium isn't equipped with lights, all home games are played during afternoon hours — sometimes not until late afternoon.

In addition to other changes at E.S. King Village, L permits will be valid after 3:00 p.m. Scratch-off permits will be issued for people who visit after hours.

The changes have just begun to be implemented, and they officially started on August 16, said Harden.

According to Harden, the changes are as follows: On N.C. State's main campus, C faculty and staff permit parking will be added in the Hillsborough Square Lot, Dan Allen Deck, Lee Lot, Upper Steam Plant Lot and along Cates Avenue.

On Centennial Campus, both lots will be changed to C (north) and D (south) permit zones.

On the Veterinary College Campus, all the current D zones will be changed to C zones.

In the Method Road Greenhouse area and in the Micro-taxon Lab area south of the McKimmon Center, C permit parking will be added.

For graduate students, there will be campus specific permits, such as CC for Centennial Campus, and VC for the Veterinary College. The present UA permit designation will be changed to U. The role of the permit, however, will not change.

On North Campus, only faculty and staff working on that campus will be eligible for a B or BNH permit. New employees will only be eligible for staff and deck permits, which are designated as C, DC and DD.

Parking permit enforcement for all non-reserved spaces will begin at 7:00 a.m. instead of 7:30 a.m. Permit enforcement will continue until 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Faculty and staff members who choose payroll deduction will be offered a multi-year permit applicable for two years.

Regarding student reaction to the transportation changes, N.C. State student Candace Montague said, "I think that the changes that [the transportation department] have made have caused confusion, and so far I don't see [the changes] as effective, particularly not having parking in front of the library because it causes great inconvenience for students who live off campus."

For those who have questions concerning these changes, you can contact anyone in the transportation department by calling 515-3424, or you can visit the transportation department's Web site at [www.ncsu.edu/transportation](http://www.ncsu.edu/transportation).

## NCSU student runs for city council

◆ N.C. State senior Thomas Croom is running for Raleigh city council.

Dominique Donato  
Staff Reporter

Rock the vote. The MTV mantra has been ringing through the ears of many Generation X students. Still, most college students are not registered to vote, and even fewer actually show up at the polls.

Thomas Croom, an N.C. State senior majoring in zoology and chemistry, believes that students would vote if their interests were represented. That's why 26-year-old Croom is running for Raleigh's District D city council seat, an uncontested seat held the past two terms by Benson Kirkman.

District D includes the NCSU community. "The main reason why I wanted to run is to provide a choice — it's not a democracy if you only have one choice," said Croom.

Before Kirkman, Eric Reeves held the seat. Reeves, like Kirkman, ran uncontested.

District D includes more than 90,000 people, approximately 40,000 of whom are registered to vote. Only 5,000 actually show up at the polls, said Croom. With 25,000 NCSU students included in the district, strikingly few vote. Croom attributes this lack of voting enthusiasm to student apathy and transience. He said that many students feel that their brief stay at NCSU has little or no impact on the greater community.

Illness kept Croom hospitalized for a year of his college career, greatly impacting his finances and his attitude.

"It changed my perspective on who I was, what I wanted to do, [and] where I was going," he said.

After working for peanuts in order to survive, Croom came back to college with a desire to "affect the N.C. State community and the community around it," he said.

Croom said that many of his college classmates came to NCSU, received their degree, and then complained about how much they had hated the experience.

"It hurt me that people felt that way," he said. "I love N.C. State." Croom became involved in

See CROOM, Page 2

## Rocky Branch dream finally coming true



The lawn along Sullivan Drive and the entrance to the Lee Hall parking lot are still closed because of the construction.

◆ The renovation project is in the process of completion.

Dominique Donato  
Staff Reporter

After many years of dreaming, hoping and campaigning, Rocky Branch Creek is finally undergoing the changes that should lead to a cleaner, more aesthetically pleasing and thoroughly incorporated stream on N.C. State's campus.

Rocky Branch Creek is getting a face-lift of sorts. Culverts are being replaced, the creek will be graded to create a meandering stream, and a greenway has been planned to run from Gorman Street to Pullen Park.

Rocky Branch Creek, which runs directly through NCSU's

campus, is undergoing a three-phase restoration in hopes of enhancing the creek's natural beauty.

"There's a lot of people that have fought for Rocky Branch for a long time," said Barbara Doll, a N.C. Sea Grant water quality specialist.

Doll is the current champion of the project, having raised several million dollars in grants to fund the project.

"I took that Rocky Branch torch that others were carrying. I came at a good time," she said. "River restoration was really catching on, money was coming along to do it, and I had the ambition to do it. It just congealed for me."

Doll graduated from NCSU with a degree in civil engineering. As a student, she was involved in the university's environmental

club, Lorax, where she first learned about some of the problems surrounding the creek. Her awareness of the problems with the stream helped her in her future plans.

"With Lorax, I gained awareness of this creek. Immediately, anyone is motivated to fix it, but when you're a college student, you don't really know what to do with it. With Sea Grant, it became possible," said Doll.

"The type of organization that Sea Grant is allowed me to put the pieces together and learn how, as well as teach others and have this outdoor classroom available."

This project is important to Doll for a variety of reasons, including the water quality of the Neuse River, the aesthetics of the campus, the demonstration of this

See ROCKY, Page 3


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### CROOM

Continued from Page 1

Student Government by serving on Student Senate. Then, after discussions with campus leaders, he decided that he wanted to run for city council.

The Brent Road party seems to be the most pressing issue for the majority of students. The Nuisance Party Ordinance has shut down the party and left many students angry and disenchanted with politics in general.

Though Croom wants to emphasize that the ordinance is only one small issue in a longer string of important issues, he said, "It's unconstitutional; it violates our right to assemble. If there are ten people in one place, you're breaking the law."

"It shows poor communication on Kirkman's part," he said, "in the sense that he was not willing or able to bring about a compromised solution."

Kirkman, however, disagrees with Croom's assessment of the ordinance.

"There's a lot of misinterpretation on what the ordinance is about. It's citywide. If you read it carefully, property owners and landlords who take advantage of their tenants are targeted. It creates liability on their part," said Kirkman.

Croom argued that although the ordinance is citywide, the enforcement has been selective. Also, the ordinance has shut down other parties intended as charity events, such as Pigstock.

Croom acknowledged, however, that there are a lot of problems with parties like Brent Road, and he supports non-alcoholic events such as the Crossroads party.

Croom believes that students can be expected to act responsibly.

"If you give a young person the opportunity to be responsible, I'm willing to bet [he or she] will," he said.

There are other issues that concern Croom not just on NCSU's campus but also in the greater community. Communication between city officials and under-represented parts of the population is one such issue.

Currently, there are organizations called Citizens' Advisory Councils in which members of the community can voice their opinions and raise issues for reform. Their comments are brought to the city councilmen, but this does not ensure that those issues will be acted upon. Croom would like to see CACs being given more power. Also, he would like to start a new CAC for the NCSU community itself.

Another communication issue is the lack of organization on the city's Web site.

"If a third or fifth grader wanted to do a report on the history of the city council, he would not be able to find it on that Web site," said Croom.

He said that the information should be easily accessible.

Transportation is one of the city's greatest problems and is another issue about which Croom feels strongly. With all the congestion in the city, there are still not enough forms of alternative transportation. The city council is currently debating on a light rail system that would run above ground, but Croom warns that this may not be a good solution, as these trains would run on diesel fuel and make frequent stops, increasing the city's already tremendous problem with greenhouse gases.

"It's based on the Dallas area. Maybe half a million people live in Raleigh. In Dallas, there are several million. Dallas's ridership is 4,300 a day. Triangle Transit authority expects 4,400 riders a day with the light rail system. The numbers do not compute," he said.

Croom has a plan he calls the Triangle Transportation Initiative, which calls for an overhaul of the current bus system. The initiative calls for multi-use hub sites where people can enjoy shopping and cafes as they wait for the bus, thereby increasing the safety of the bus system as well as stimulating business in those areas.

"It would keep people off the roads, reduce the parking burden, encourage people to leave their cars at home and stimulate economic growth," he said.

Croom also wants to start an all-access system in which students would be able to ride city buses using their all-campus cards by paying a general transportation fee at NCSU. This would reduce the parking burden on campus as well as allow students to live further away from campus, while at the same time increasing city bus patronage and pumping more money into the transportation system for further improvements.

Renovation is also high on Croom's priority list. The issues with Hillsborough Street, championed by Kirkman, are equally important to Croom. He hopes to see wider sidewalks to encourage pedestrian traffic in front of the stores across from NCSU's campus. Safe crosswalks are also important.

According to the law books, all crosswalks should be equipped with audible signals, said Croom. Raleigh, however, has allowed these signals to be unequipped until "one single person" asks for it, said Croom. As soon as that one person asks, it must be installed.

"I believe I need 4,200 to 4,500 votes to win," said Croom. "If that number of students actually show up, they'll definitely have a student on city council at the end of the year. Even with half those votes, I still have a good chance."


Voter registration ends Sept. 4 and the elections are scheduled for Oct. 9. Every NCSU student living on campus will be eligible to register, and voters must live in Raleigh only 30 days prior to the election, not the registration.

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19 Wednesday	5:00pm	Winston 29
26 Wednesday	4:05pm	Winston 29
<b>OCTOBER</b>		
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18 Thursday	5:00pm	Winston 29
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## ROCKY

Continued from Page 1

kind of restoration after which similar projects can be modeled and the availability of an outdoor classroom for students.

"If you just think," she said, "there's over 200 miles of Neuse River, but hundreds of miles of tributaries that drain into the Neuse. If all the tributaries look like Rocky Branch, how is the Neuse supposed to be great?"

Doll encourages students to do their part as well.

"Don't throw litter out, even in parking lots. A lot of the litter in the stream wasn't directly thrown there — it got washed out of parking lots into the stream. Littering doesn't give someone a job — that's just a lame excuse," she said.

Several students have used their experience working with Rocky Branch Creek for credit in courses such as limnology. Doll added that engineering students are required to do a hydrology project during their college career, and the campus creek could offer the perfect opportunity.

"A lot of what we've learned from the creek has come from students," Doll proudly professed.

Doll said that the creek plays a visible role on the campus facade.

"The stream does bisect our campus — it has an effect on the appearance of the campus," she said. "Right now the effect is really negative. Demonstrating, taking something that has been so degraded, abused, polluted and renovating it — having it as an example elsewhere — is really important."

"The contractor [for the restoration project], Tri-State, has done a really good job," said Jill Coleman, project manager and landscape architect for Facilities Planning and Design. "They've been really careful realizing that they're in a student area."

"That whole area is going to

change dramatically over the next few months," said Coleman. "A lot of the trees will be taken out. We looked carefully to see if we could save trees or not save trees. Because they're right on the bank, we could not keep those trees — they would collapse. Some of them are already collapsing into the stream banks."

Coleman, like many NCSU students, says she will be sad to see some of the large trees go, but she said, "We're going to move as quickly as we can to fix it and replant trees."

The Rocky Branch Project will run in three phases, the first of which will be completed by late October or early November. This includes the culvert work being done around the Motor Pool and the Bragaw parking lot area.

Ted Devens, the construction manager for Facilities, said the hardest part of the project has been keeping that part of campus operational due to several utility lines in the areas of the culverts.

Approximately \$100,000 was spent to maintain utilities such as the steam line, telecommunications hub, major fire-alarm lines and the water main at the Bragaw culvert.

"We could have done it a lot cheaper. We could have done it fast if we didn't have to keep operations running," he said.

Another challenge Devens and his crew faced was keeping dorm move-in running smoothly. Due to the work on the culvert near the Bragaw parking lot, the usual driveway had to be closed. In order to keep traffic flowing, the construction crew created a temporary road.

State-of-the-art material was laid down over the tennis courts near Bragaw, allowing automobile traffic to pass over smoothly while protecting the courts. This innovation, which Devens called a "fiberglass load-bearing mat," has no environmental impact and can be removed almost as easily as it was installed.

With the culverts almost finished, the next phase of the project will be to lay back the banks of the stream, easing the canyon effect. The construction crew will also be working to make the creek meander like a natural stream.

Devens likened the path of a creek to a ski slope. If you ski down in a straight line, you will go much faster than if you snowplow down the slope, criss-crossing your way to the bottom.

The final phase of the project will be landscaping the area — planting grasses, small trees and shrubbery to prevent erosion — and installing the Greenway.

"It will be a year before Phase II. It may be as long as a year and a half or two years before we start work behind Carmichael gym. We're beginning the planning work for the second and third phase, but it may take several years before it's finished," said Cole.

Both Coleman and Devens agreed that construction schedules have been loosely planned for good reason.

Deven said that there is always room for Murphy's Law.

"To me, the key to being successful in a project is to be proactive and plan for contingencies," he said.

One of the most important elements of the project has been safety. Orange fencing has been arranged around the construction sights, as well as signs warning students, faculty and other visitors not to enter the area.

Devens realizes the inconvenience the fences may create and has tried to make up for it wherever possible.

"You cannot expect people to be safe and not give them a place to go," he said. A seven-foot grass buffer was created along Sullivan Drive so that joggers and other frequent strollers can still enjoy their favorite pathway.

"Yes, it's gonna be a mess for a while, but it's gonna be very nice in the end, so just be patient and be safe in the meantime," said Coleman.



Jeff Weller, a sophomore in mechanical engineering, looks over some posters at the Brickyard poster sale Monday morning.

PHOTO BY KYLE HODGERS



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## TECHNICIAN'S VIEW

### Humans' attack on sharks

AN APPARENT RASH OF SHARK ATTACKS HAS THE PUBLIC WRONGLY DEMONIZING SHARKS.

Since the beginning of time, humans have always had a fear of the water. Sailors on the high seas used to create imaginary monsters to justify their excessive apprehension. Today, some call the depths of the ocean the final frontier. Thus, it is no surprise that the apparent rash of shark bites this summer has humans going for the jugular in the battle of man versus fish.

However, the problem is not simply the sharks' fault. Humans are extending their fear of the unknown (the ocean) onto the backs of the most obvious scapegoat — the shark. A recent ABC News story stated that you are more likely to be struck by lightning than to be attacked by a shark, yet this fact seems to be disregarded as more and more shark attacks are reported and sensationalized.

The increase in shark attacks is the price we are paying for increased surfing and beach traffic, increased fishing in the shark's home waters and, worst of all, the shark sight-seeing industry. Although we have an innate fear of the cunning and extremely efficient killing machine of the ocean, our fear is accompanied by curiosity.

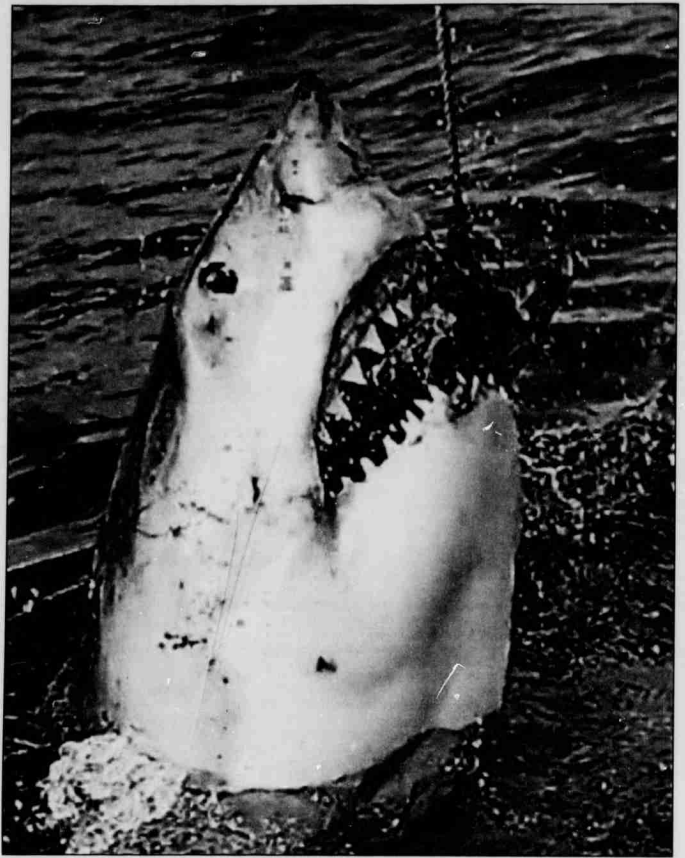
If sharks are becoming more aggressive toward humans, as the public seems to think and experts seem to deny, it is because they are beginning

to associate humans with food. The most popular of shark sight-seeing tours are those that produce the most sharks. In order to accomplish this, many promoters throw food into the ocean to attract the sharks. As a result, sharks are beginning to associate humans with food. Previously, most attacks occurred in murky water or areas where food is hard to find.

Fundamentally, a shark attacking a surfer off the Florida coast is little different from a fox stealing from a suburban garden, only one is much more likely to result in long-term injury. Humans are encroaching on animals' habitats and consequences will occur. So where does this leave us?

Six surfers were attacked in Florida Sunday as Jessie Arbogast, the 8-year-old boy attacked in July, remains in a coma. The number of reported shark attacks per year is going up each year; however, the per capita rate is estimated to be fairly constant.

As beach-goers, we must be aware that we are taking a chance, albeit equal or lesser than a lightning strike, every time we step into the water. We must demand that shark sight-seeing tours be decreased. But most of all, we must not blame sharks for being animals striving for survival as we demonize that which we don't understand.



Shark eating bait - image from www.sharkbites.com

## Campus Forum

Some people's opinions are out of this world...



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Flash Gordon/ Dale Arden image from 1938 Flash Gordon movie series  
design by marko 2001

## Liberal is a four-letter word

Larisa Yasinovskaya  
STAFF COLUMNIST

Honestly I had a so-so summer and couldn't wait to get back to school. Not necessarily in that "I can't wait to get back to my studies" kind of way, although sort of, but I couldn't wait to get back to all the things that school is. I got to see my friends whom I missed during the summer. I got to get away from my family (whom I love dearly, but, you know ...) and to my new apartment. So far so good. I got the classes I wanted and a great schedule. My apartment, in spite of some serious move-in stress, is wonderful. Nothing really to complain about ... so far.

Wait a minute, Larisa is having a moment of pure happiness, sheer contentment and, all in all, general appreciation for life. But even if I wasn't, and even if things didn't work out quite so perfectly, there would still be so much to be thankful for. Consider the world we, as Americans, live in. We have all the food we could ever want readily available to us. We have access

to housing, clothing, education and freedom of thought.

It makes me think of all the people across the world who not only lack the access to such luxuries but cannot even conceive of such a world and existence. Think of all the people in the United States alone who do not have enough food, much less access to education. Think of all the people across the world who don't have any of this — and don't even know what they're missing. When I lived in the former USSR, we didn't even know about the existence of many U.S. amenities; imagine what people in third-world countries might think.

This is why I write what I write. I write about social problems, injustice and human suffering (and the occasional gnome article) not because I'm just "ranting about something," but because I appreciate the amazingly privileged life we live here. This is why I feel we are obligated to learn about the plight of others and do what we can to help them.

Therefore, it is important to learn about the horrors of what happens to women in Afghanistan, but learning

about the issue is not enough. It is not enough to appreciate our readily available drinking water; we should try to provide the same for every human being.

I realize these are lofty goals, and each one of us was neither born with nor possesses the ability to single-handedly save the world ... right? No, you don't have to save the world all by yourself, but maybe some of you (you know who you are) should reconsider calling the people who try "those damn liberals" like it's some dirty word.

So, go ahead and try; save the world today ... or, at least, feed a homeless person. If not, that's fine too. You can be the person who goes through life taking everything we have here for granted. Just don't stand in the way of people who want to help their fellow men.

Larisa is just getting warmed up. How did you like her mission statement? Tell her at [larisas\\_opinion@hotmail.com](mailto:larisas_opinion@hotmail.com).

## A piece of advice: slow down

Tommy Bakane  
STAFF COLUMNIST

I thought back on all the things I've learned in college. It wasn't about all the formulas and equations and stuff; those are long gone. No, I thought about all the other stuff I've learned out of the classroom over the past year or so.

This being my ninth and final tour of duty (not including the five summer sessions — ouch!) I feel I can offer some help to the new crop coming in this semester. Now in the next several months, you'll get a lot of "advice" from other people, but the important thing is that you listen to me.

The most important rule of thumb here is to take your time. Spend as much time as you can doing homework, projects, studying and choosing a major. This is most true with homework, and there are two possible traps that a lot of people fall into. We all know that we *should* do our homework, but the sweet and seductive goddess of procrastination tempts us all.

I wish I knew how many times I said to myself, "Oh, it's only 10 percent of my grade — missing one little assign-

ment won't hurt too much." But those little blank spots in the grade book always came back to haunt me at the end of the semester. I was sweating bullets for a few exams, freaking out because those points slipped through my fingers. Remember, 10 percent is a whole letter grade. The second homework trap is even worse: Professors who assign homework don't grade it. Watch out for those. You might do the first, second or even third assignment before you start to blow those off too. Speaking from regretful experience, you won't have a clue what's going on, making test days a nightmare.

You should also take your time to choose a major. First Year College isn't just for freshmen, I recommend that you just pick something you like and totally ignore the job market for that field. The reason is that after four (or five or six) years, you will probably be so sick of whatever you have been studying, that you will want to move on to something else anyway. Another reason is that the professional world is so much different than school. Whatever job you do choose, you will have to be specially trained all over again (note: This statement does not apply to the College of Management.)

Some advice that is less important to some (but most important to me) is to avoid 8:05 a.m. classes at all costs, even if this means taking a summer class or even an extra semester. Now I know there are some sick people who can wake up early every morning, but I have learned to accept my own limitations and deal with them accordingly. This also ties back into taking your time while you're in school. You can use that summer session or extra semester to take some nifty classes that have no place in your degree program. That extra poetry or math history class could prove to be invaluable.

I know that most of this advice isn't really critical. There's a good chance that no one will call me in four years to personally thank me. But what I really want to stress is that four years is a long time and there are a whole lot of options out there. Keeping a slow and steady pace in college is underrated these days; everybody is just trying to get out. To me, the only thing scarier than another four months of homework and tests is 30 years of working nine to five.

Questions? Comments? Advice for Tommy? Email him at [tabakane@hotmail.com](mailto:tabakane@hotmail.com).

## TECHNICIAN

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# it's like, COWBOYS, man

starring colin farrell, scott caan and ali larter  
directed by les mayfield  
★★

"AMERICAN OUTLAWS" IS A FILM THAT shows promise on every level but manages to fall on almost all except one, simply due to the script's short attention span. Some parts are enjoyable, so don't take that the wrong way, but every time the film starts to go in one direction, it seems to get bored with itself, even when the audience hasn't gotten bored with it yet, and randomly goes in a different direction.

It reminded me of the "Towelie" character on a recent episode of "South Park," who kept getting very involved in very important studies that he was the center of, until he "got high and wondered off." Along those lines, I also got strange looks from other people in the theatre for laughing during a serious scene, but that's another article entirely.

The film begins with a Civil War battle, which demonstrates the gun-slinging talents of Jesse James (Colin Farrell, "Tigerland") and the marksmanship skills of Frank James (Gabriel Macht). Directly after winning the battle, they hear that the war is over, so they go happily back home to their farms and their sweet Ma (Kathy Bates, "Misery"), who is proud of her boys for "praying to the

Lord and killing Yankees." (She steals every scene she's in, but then again, when does she not?)

Problem is, Thaddeus Rains (Harris Yulin, "Rush Hour 2"), and his evil henchman, Allen Pinkerton (Timothy Dalton, who was the fourth James Bond, playing a bad James Bond villain), want to take over the town to build a railroad and are willing to kill people who won't sell their land. Needless to say, Jesse and Frank won't put up with this, and after the film gets high and wanders across a romantic link between Jesse and Zee (Ali Larter, who looks just like Bridgette "Billy Madison's girlfriend" Wilson), it wanders to a party. Then, it suddenly decides that they need action, so the railroad supporters start attacking, cross the line and Jesse James & Co. declare war on Rains and his evil railroad.

From here, the plot goes all over the place, hitting every possible side-plot and distraction like a fat man walking

through the endless food items at a Golden Corral buffet. In its wandering, it also skips some things, like battles and battles that we only hear about.

At one point, we see them plotting one, which sparks our attention... we want to see the battle, but instead they cut to the bad guys walking through the battle site after the attack. They built the set, so they probably had the money to shoot the attack as well, which would have been much more fun than the scene they replaced it with, but they probably just got distracted.

The cast is the film's only high point; even when they don't have talent, they're having a good time. Like the plot, around the halfway point, they get bored with Macht's character (which was the strongest in the film) and focus more on Cole Younger (Scott Caan from "Varsity Blues"), who really isn't very interesting. Dalton doesn't help the film any either, speaking in a poor Scottish accent that

sounds like one your everyday person would use when telling a joke, but he's not telling any jokes.

Rounding out the cast are Farrell and Larter, who are both great-looking people who've had talent before and probably will again but still put us to sleep.

On a positive note, this isn't a totally bad or boring film, and on several occasions it's entertaining. Back to the negative notes — there are two possible morals that needed to be learned from this film. The first is that the Western genre has been perfected, and unless you have something important to say through a Western or they finally take my advice and clone John Wayne, stop making them.

The other moral is to not smoke up while trying to make a movie, because in the end you get an incoherent mess that doesn't even know what it's about. Kind of like Towelie, except that episode of "Park" is much better than this film.

Things to do  
in Raleigh  
when you're  
bored

Ryan Hill  
Features Editor

So you're back at school and everything's great, because you get to see your friends that you haven't seen since May, and some of them look different because they lost all the weight they gained the last school year, right? Wrong. The first few weeks of class are pretty painless, so there's all this free time since you can't do homework and Eiberhet is on the Fritz. To help with this problem, here are some things to do to get back into the swing of things.

**Practical Jokes:** Notin' 'says lovin' like a good, old-fashioned practical joke. Your friends won't be expecting it; they're too busy unpacking and getting the stomachs re-occupied to the cafeteria. Stay away from generic jokes, like rolling someone's dorm or pulling the smoke alarm (that one went out of style about 800-years-ago).

**Instead, be original.** Throw a trashcan in a bathroom stall. While someone is in it. The shock will definitely help things come out faster. Write a funny message on the nametags on everyone's dorm room. For example: Bofesuf picks his nose in 302-C. Lots of people will see it, and it's a low-level joke that's good for a quick laugh. Better yet, come up with your own. Just make sure you don't piss someone off for the rest of the year.

**Make some money:** Everyone needs it, so why not get some for yourself? The first part of the semester is typically a breeze, so do something "constructive" with your free time.

**Donate something:** I'm not talking about giving away your roommate's TV or anything like that, but donate plasma or something like that. As school drags on, you're gonna get strapped for cash, so why not try to help things out now? Sure, it takes awhile and isn't as fun as playing *Goldeneye*, but you make money.

You can save that money for down the road, or treat yourself now and get N'Sync's latest, "Celebrity." You know you want to.

**Get a job:** As awful as it sounds, you could definitely work somewhere for a few weeks, and you just become so disgruntled that you give up trying to have a conversation with them. While "Made" may not be the best film ever made, it's a step up from the disappointments that this summer brought (Dinosaurs and Monkeys come to mind). Overall, it is well worth \$7.50, and for all you "Swingers" fans out there, check out the front license plate on the limo the guys ride around New York in.

**Get school supplies:** Kind of obvious, right? Get that stuff out of the way before reading assignments pile up. While you're at the bookstore, use mom's credit card to buy a Wolfpack T-shirt or two. All you have to do is say that money was used for books. Plus, the walk will do you some good.

**Call your mom:** She's definitely sad you're gone and would love to talk to you. It's hard to remember to do this when things are hectic at the start of the semester, but at least let her know you're thinking about her. It will most definitely make her day and put her in a good mood. You can also throw a hint or two in that things cost more than you thought and that it would be great if you had some more money. They'll be drawn back as you'll be branded a scavenger by anyone you tell this to.

Of course, there are about a million other things to do with your time. This list is here to help those out who need some direction in how to spend (or waste, depending on how you look at it) your free time at school.

# american OUTLAWS



## Performances Make "Made"

Starring  
Jon Favreau,  
Vince Vaughn,  
Peter Falk  
and  
Sean Combs

Directed by  
Jon Favreau

★★★½

Joe Partin  
Staff Writer

I HAVE ALWAYS HAD THE FIRM belief that the acting in a mediocre film could make or break it. The acting in "Made" happens to be a good example. It's not a bad film, but the weak plot keeps it from being great. The film centers around the two main characters, played by Jon Favreau and Vince Vaughn.

Favreau plays Bobby, a wannabe boxer whose record is less than outstanding. He takes on the job of guarding his stripper girlfriend, played by the lovely Famke Janssen. Bobby is best friends with Ricky (played

by Vaughn), his complete polar opposite. Ricky is a fast-talking, obnoxious low-life.

Both Bobby and Ricky work for Max (played by Peter Falk, "Columbo"), an L.A. underworld boss. Max enlists Bobby and Ricky to do a job for him, which requires them to travel to New York and meet up with Ruis (in an electrifying performance by Sean "P. Diddy" Combs), where they are to make an apparently easy drop, but it goes awry. The plot is not very original, but the standout performances of Vaughn and Favreau make the

film original.

The film is being touted as a follow-up to the 1996 cult classic "Swingers" (which happens to be one of my favorite films), in which Favreau and Vaughn both starred. In many ways, the two films are similar; in both films, Favreau plays the more sympathetic character, kind of like the average guy trying to get by, while Vaughn plays the over-the-top, quick-witted, self-absorbed loser.

The two have definitely established themselves as the modern day "Odd Couple," and it would

n't be surprising to see more films with them because of their electric chemistry. The major difference between the films is how tedious "Made" can sometimes be. Favreau, who makes his directorial debut (He also wrote and produced both "Swingers" and "Made"), sometimes lets Vaughn's character go too far.

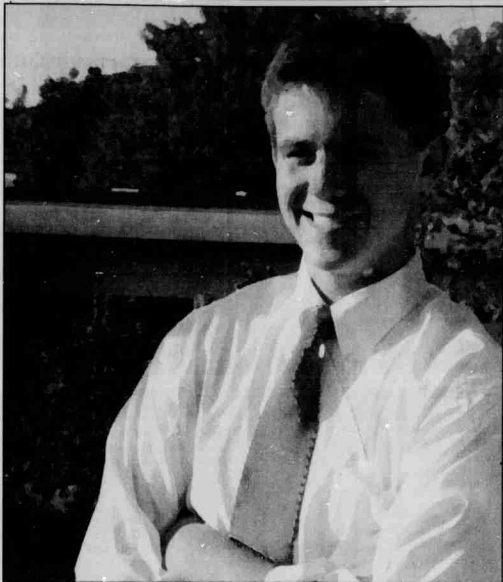
There were times in this film where Vaughn's performance was more obnoxious than funny, and at times it was tedious to watch. It seemed, in "Swingers," that Vaughn was more restrained,

yet he was still witty. In "Made," he's a reminder of one of those people that you try and talk to and you just become so disgruntled that you give up trying to have a conversation with them.

While "Made" may not be the best film ever made, it's a step up from the disappointments that this summer brought (Dinosaurs and Monkeys come to mind). Overall, it is well worth \$7.50, and for all you "Swingers" fans out there, check out the front license plate on the limo the guys ride around New York in.

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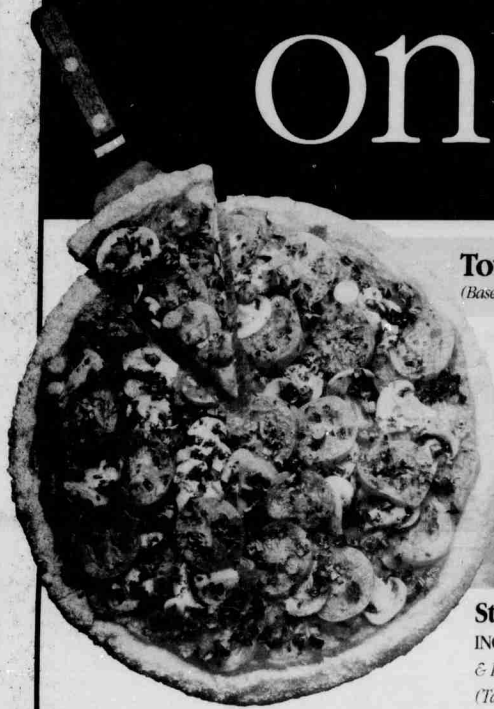
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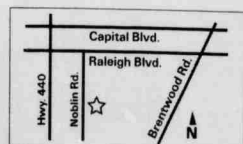
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## JERRY

Continued from Page 12

freshman last year, was named second-team All-Atlantic Coast Conference, becoming the first Pack player to garner all-conference honors in four years. Goalkeeper Gretchen Lear had the best save percentage in the ACC, and the defense provided the foundation for the team's success.

If State fails to make its first NCAA Tournament appearance since 1996, it will be a significant letdown. The women's soccer team is focused on achieving its goal, but a long, difficult season looms on the horizon.

The bar might not be set as high for the volleyball squad, but it will be intriguing to see what

kind of impact first-year coach Mary Byrne can make. She inherits a team that has posted only two winning seasons over the past 12 years, but she has experience with turning a program around.

Before joining the Pack, Byrne served as the head coach at South Dakota State for eight seasons. When she arrived at that school, the volleyball team was struggling mightily. All Byrne did was guide the team to eight consecutive winning seasons and win at least 20 matches in each of the last five years.

Obviously, State volleyball is getting a fresh start with a new coach, but veteran starters Alison Kreager and Charce Williams will lead the team on the court.

Those associated with the volleyball team will have their eyes on the situation to see how the old guard will mesh with the

new. Whether Byrne can immediately breathe new life into the State program (a la Chuck Amato) remains to be seen. Rest assured, however, that things will be different.

There are reasons to be optimistic about the future of Pack football, women's soccer and volleyball. Fans of these sports have reason to be excited about the upcoming season, but it might be a good idea to temper the exuberance by remembering exactly how fine a line there can be between a "successful" and "disastrous" season.

*Jerry Moore's columns will regularly appear on Wednesdays, and he can be heard on WKNC's Sports Revolution every Thursday at 6 p.m. He can be reached at jerry@techniciansports.com or 515-2411.*

## FOWLER

Continued from Page 12

Sendek situation. Was there a lot of pressure on you to do something there from the fans?

**Fowler:** There was a lot of media scrutiny and attention. The News & Observer has kind of seemed like that was their issue was that he was going to be gone or should be gone or something like that. That's been kind of upsetting because I can't imagine why they'd taken that issue and that side of the issue. So there was pressure there.

When you get pressure from a major newspaper, then you're automatically going to get your fans behind it, the ones that have any inking or feel that side of the issue. We had e-mails, and I e-mailed them back. And a lot of them, when I told them the situation, I told them to call me, and we'd talk about it. Most of them were pretty understanding of my reasoning and what we're trying to do with the program and that sort of thing. I think most people just want to be heard, and after they're heard and it's logical, then they're OK with it.

I've been real happy with how our fans are starting to get excited about the upcoming season with the new freshmen. And our coaching staff and the players that have been here before are really excited about the team chemistry, and they're looking forward to this coming season more so than they have ever since they've been here, even the juniors and seniors.

**Technician:** Staying on basketball for a minute, another one of those tough decisions was the situation with Damien Wilkins. What was the thought process there between you and Coach Sendek?

**Fowler:** Of course, Coach Sendek came to me and felt that if Damien decided not to go back to the pros, then he was going to look around and check out some different schools. I

think that was probably the straw that broke the camel's back.

Herb was ready to be done with it. He didn't go pro, so he's back with the team and let's move forward. That wasn't going to happen, so I think Herb was frustrated. He felt like it was time for this team to start healing from the year before, and he didn't need another agenda out there looking for other schools and that sort of thing.

We knew about it a couple of weeks before we publicly announced it, but we didn't want to hurt Damien's chance to go to pro. If he was going to get drafted, it would have been a dead issue, and we wouldn't have had an issue about it. So those were the things that were kind of going on behind the scenes.

We wish him all the luck in the world. We just were looking for somebody who wanted to come back and be at State, and he was kind of going to pursue his options further. So we just didn't feel like that's what we needed. We needed to go forward with this team and kind of get everybody on the same page and move forward.

**Technician:** I know one of those things that you've been most proud of in the last year is selling out Carter-Finley for the season. How important is it to get the ESA sold out and get Carter-Finley sold out?

**Fowler:** It's really important because it shows that you're a solid athletic program.

Very few athletic programs around the country sell football and basketball out, especially with the size arena that we have. And of course with the football stadium, it's kind of amazing to add 6,000 seats and then go ahead and sell it out in football. Those are very important, and it's kind of a part of our plan.

We had never really marketed that much and put an emphasis on selling season tickets. I think [Associate Athletics Director for External Operations]

Charlie Cobb and [Director of Marketing/Promotions] Ann Marie Sales have done a great job of marketing this year. It all came together because Chuck and them did well last year. Philip Rivers is a sophomore; we've got a lot of excitement coming back; we're scheduling great games in the future. So therefore, you say, "I'm going to go ahead and get a season ticket because it might be tough to get season tickets down the road."

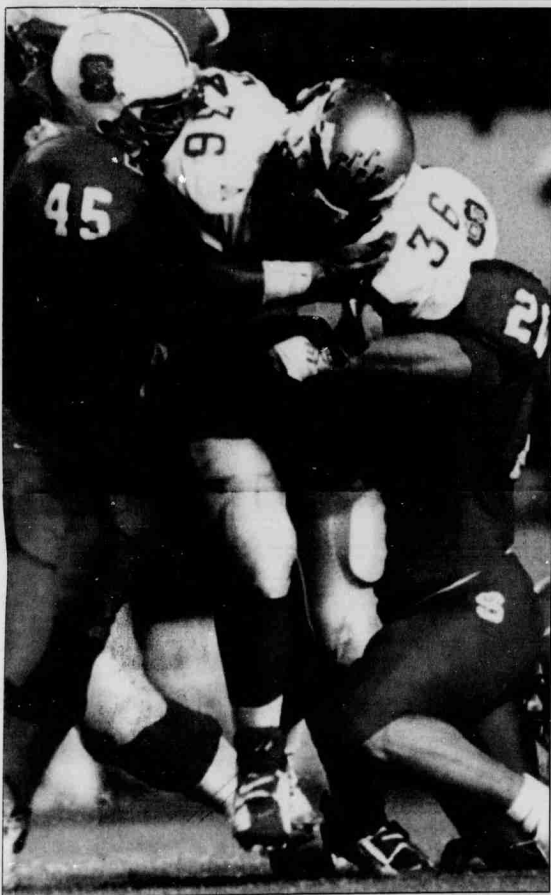
A lot of things happened — the new scoreboard and what the Wolfpack Club has done. Everything kind of came together at the right time.

Now our charge is to make sure people have fun at the games. I think you're going to see a lot of excitement at the games. This year, every day before a home football game, if you're flying your flag on your car, you've got a chance to win prizes.

Around the city, if you've got red showing, we're going to stop cars, give them a prize, and they'll have a chance to win season tickets in football, basketball and every sport we have for the next year. We're going to do some things to kind of thank people but also to show Raleigh how many Wolfpack fans there are in this city and how many kids there are. And students alike will have a chance to win.

That promotion is going to start next Thursday on radio. It's going to be on four different radio stations. We want to show folks in town how many folks there are that are Wolfpack supporters.

And we've got a great deal on flags. I think we ordered 6,000 flags to be sold, and like I said, we want to show the team and everybody else that this is Wolfpack town, and we're ready on Wednesday two weeks from now. That'll be the day that people at drive time in the morning will fly their flags and hopefully will fly them all day and into the next day.



JASON WESTERHOF

Despite plenty of new players, Florida State is still the team to catch in the ACC.

## FOOTBALL

Continued from Page 12

the last 10 years.

While all of these teams have concerns, Wolfpack fans know more than anyone that a new coach can get his players to overlook these details.

While the Seminoles face are the big news of the middle and lower portions of the conference, the new players at Florida State have many teams seriously looking to dethrone the Seminoles.

One year removed from playing in the national championship game, Florida State will have to find replacements at many key positions. Gone are quarterback Chris Wienke, wideout Marvin Minnis and defensive standouts Jamal

Reynolds, David Warren and Taj Cody.

"They have players; we all know that," said Amato when asked about the departure of these players from Florida State. "Every year, they're in the top five in recruiting, and that's why they end up in the top four in playing because they coach those good kids."

While the Seminoles remain the favorites in the ACC due to that extremely deep roster, many more experienced teams see this year as an opportunity to unseat FSU.

Georgia Tech and Clemson both look primed to make a run at the title. Each team has an explosive offense lead by battle-tested quarterbacks — George Godsey at Tech and Woody Dantzler at Clemson.

Right behind the pre-season top three, most prognosticators

place State, Virginia, and UNC (usually in that order). Despite the Wolfpack's record last year, many question whether the Pack can regain the chemistry that enabled it to win many close games. Also, the departures of many key players, including Koren Robinson and Adrian Wilson, leave State with depth concerns at several positions.

"Six of the eight games we won we were losing with five minutes left to go in the fourth quarter," Amato said. "I think that's a great tribute to our players and the assistant coaches. We might have a better football team and not win as many games."

Most pick Maryland, Wake and Duke to fill the bottom slots in the conference, but with the influx of new faces in the ACC, predicting the final standings is little more than guesswork.

# BACK THE PACK

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Football vs. Indiana, 9/6, 7:30  
W. soccer vs. High Point, 8/31, 5:00  
M. soccer, Wolfpack Classic, 9/1-2  
Volleyball, IUPUI Tournament, 9/1-2  
Cross country, Wolfpack Invit., 9/1-2



Lee Fowler has already seen plenty of change during his first year.

◆ Athletics Director Lee Fowler took time on Tuesday to reflect on his first year at N.C. State.

**Jeremy Ashton**  
Sports Editor

*Editor's Note: This is the first part of a two-part interview with N.C. State Athletics Director Lee Fowler. The second segment of the interview will appear in Thursday's paper.*

Lee Fowler is quickly approaching his first anniversary as the athletics director at N.C. State.

Fowler, who came to Raleigh from Middle Tennessee State in October, has seen quite a bit happen in his first year running the Wolfpack athletics program. Chuck Amato coached the football team to an 8-4 record and a victory in the MironPC.com Bowl, which served as the impetus for the renovations at Carter-Finley Stadium and a beefed-up schedule for the future. The Pack completely sold out the Entertainment and Sports Arena last year and has already done the same at Carter-Finley for football this year. And improvements for all of the facilities on campus are in the works for the future.

Despite all of the progress, everything hasn't been smooth sailing. When the basketball team struggled to a 13-16 record, many pushed for Fowler to oust head coach Herb Sendek, something that never happened. Fowler and Sendek also made the joint decision to not allow star

player Damien Wilkins to return to the team after attempting to turn pro. And in recent weeks, he has to deal with controversy over the decision to renew the football rivalry with East Carolina. Fowler took time out of his busy schedule to sit down with Technician on Tuesday and talk about his first year at State.

**Technician:** Looking back on things, how has the first year been for you?

**Fowler:** It's been great. Probably the exciting thing was just having sold out football and the excitement for football with the new building projects and those sort of things. But it's been a great year, getting to meet a lot of Wolfpack fans.

And probably the biggest thing is just to see the excitement of the ACC, the competitiveness week in and week out, not just at the ballgames but every day. It's really a great atmosphere for college athletics — a lot of interest in college athletics, not only in basketball, which I knew about ACC basketball, but really across the board, there's a lot of excitement about ACC sports.

**Technician:** How big of a switch was it for you coming from Middle Tennessee State over here?

**Fowler:** The only real switch for me was the amount of media coverage that we have here and the amount of scrutiny that we're under with the media.

At Middle Tennessee, it was not that way; we had to kind of get them to come and try to promote them to come down and have a story to write about.

# The state of N.C. State

## a Q&A with Lee Fowler

But in 16 years at Memphis, I saw this side of it, too, where the media are there constantly, and every day, they're coming over to visit with you and watching the things that go right or wrong. And I was at Vanderbilt before that, so it's not something I'm not used to. It's just different than what the last six years have been.

**Technician:** Over the course of the last year, there have been a lot of tough decisions you've had to make. Was that something that you were expecting coming in?

**Fowler:** Well, yeah, there'll be tough ones this year and next year and every year you're in this kind of position.

I think a lot of people think they're tough — the Herb Sendek situation last year where everybody's written a bunch about it. Really, the easier things are sometimes to let people go; the tougher things are to do what you think is right and what's best for the program when other people don't think that.

Fortunately for me, I'm able to be involved in it day to day, and I'm always going to do what's best for N.C. State, so I'm never going to do something on purpose to try to hurt N.C. State. I think the things I do will always be with N.C. State in mind.

And sometimes when the media and the fans are on this mission, it may seem tough on the outside, but I understand that. They have a need to win,

and they want to win. That's what they're all about. It's the Wolfpack wanting to get back to the national prominence that they've been in the past. And of course, they have to know that there's nothing more that Herb Sendek and I want to get it there also.

There are tough times, but also in the business that I've been in, you've also got to realize, and Chuck and I talk about it a lot, with the 8-4 year they had last year, expectations are up this year. It's a great opportunity to be disappointed if we don't win every game because everybody thinks that we were 8-4 last year, we're going to be 9-3 this year or 10-2 and go to the Rose Bowl. That's what you shoot for, and those are goals that Chuck and I have, but there could be room for disappointment in football because expectations are so high.

So I've kind of got to keep it on a level tune and really see what's going on behind the scenes and see what's going on hour to hour, day to day. The first year, I didn't really feel like there were that many tough decisions, but I'm always going to try to be up front and doing the right things and, like I said, the things that I think will make N.C. State a powerhouse for many, many years.

**Technician:** You mentioned the Herb

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The new end zone seating at Carter-Finley Stadium is just one of the changes that has been made at N.C. State since Lee Fowler arrived.

athletics

## Great expectations

Cautious optimism — it's a cliché, but it would be a good one for N.C. State fans to adopt at the outset of the 2001 fall sports season.

As the sun rises on athletic fields around campus, three Wolfpack programs — football, women's soccer and volleyball — will open their seasons with lofty goals and pressure to succeed, although each for different reasons.

Inevitably, success leads to high expectations, and those associated with the football program have learned this firsthand since ending last season with a dramatic comeback victory over Minnesota in the MironPC.com Bowl.

It's easy to forget that without a handful of plays that led to incredible comebacks, State's 2000 record could have been much different. Granted, the Pack made most of those critical plays last year, but circumstances might prevent the same from happening again.

That strange, oblong ball with which they play football could take a couple funny bounces that don't go the Pack's way. Injuries and other factors beyond the control of players and coaches could also significantly hamper State's chances at repeating or exceeding last year's results.

This year's edition will rely in part on a gaggle of young, inexperienced players and junior college transfers. Because they're unproven, anything could happen.

The Pack could lose to Duke and Wake Forest or end the year as a winless season or play the BCS title game at the Rose Bowl, which will be played on Jan. 3 in Pasadena, Calif. It's likely that the Pack will do something between these two extremes, but the players are aiming high, and rightly so.

"I've never been out to California, but I'm planning to go around January this year," linebacker Levar Fisher said.

Most State fans would be terribly disappointed with a 6-5 record in 2001, but it could happen. In fact, if the Pack doesn't significantly improve on last year's 8-4 season that included the bowl game victory, people will be distraught. Hoping for bigger and better things from the football program is great, but it would be dangerous to assume that the 2001 season will go perfectly smoothly.

Another Pack program enjoyed newfound success last fall as the women's soccer team pulled off its best season since 1995. The fact that the Pack didn't reach the NCAA Tournament, however, has left the squad with a singular goal for 2001.

The players, coaches and fans won't be satisfied with anything less than an NCAA Tournament invitation, and that puts a lot of pressure on everyone involved.

"We were so close last year, it could have gone either way," said head coach Laura Kerrigan of making the NCAA Tournament. "Now the players have a taste for it, and none of them liked the feeling of sitting in that room, watching the television screen and not seeing our name called. We got a taste of success, and now we want more of it."

This year, the team will have to avoid costly non-conference losses to have a better shot at reaching its goal. Last year, early season setbacks against East Carolina and Davidson (both matches the Pack could have won) hurt the team at selection time.

A strong incoming class has inflated expectations even more, but State will rely on strong performances from its returning players. Katherine Warman, a

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## Gearing up for football

◆ ACC football fans have an intriguing and unpredictable season in store.

**Steve Thompson**  
Assistant Sports Editor

The start of the fall semester signifies a return to classes and obligations, yet all is not lost, for these things are merely the price we pay to watch college football. Looking ahead to the 2001 Atlantic Coast Conference football season, there are numerous stories and subplots that could bring uncertainty, intrigue and energy to the schedule.

The annual turnover in the college football ranks has hit the ACC especially hard this year. There are four new head coaches, eight new offensive coordinators, and the league's perennial champion will have 12 new starters. Last year, N.C. State used the enthusiasm of new head coach Chuck Amato to post an impressive 8-4 record, and other teams took notice. During the off-season, Maryland, North Carolina, Virginia and Wake Forest all hired new coaches.

Every team but Duke will have a new offensive coordinator.

"I've said before that I think the added coaches are going to bring a toughness to the conference that was somewhat lacking," said Georgia Tech head coach George O'Leary.

At Virginia, Al Groh will replace George Welsh, who retired after turning Virginia into a contender during his 19-year tenure. Having coached the New York Jets, Groh will look to implement an NFL style in his first year with the Cavaliers.

Another new coach coming over from the NFL ranks is UNC's John Bunting, who had coached with the St. Louis Rams. UNC hopes that Bunting, a Tar Heel alum, will infuse the program with the same energy seen in Raleigh last year after underachieving during the Carl Torbush era.

Ralph Friedgen (Maryland) and Jim Grobe (Wake) will look to turn around programs that routinely found themselves in the lower tier of the ACC over

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TECHNICIAN WILL BEGIN AN EIGHT-PART SERIES WEDNESDAY REVIEWING N.C. STATE'S COMPETITION THIS YEAR IN ACC FOOTBALL. THE FIRST INSTALLMENT WILL FEATURE THE DUKE BLUE DEVILS.