

# TECHNICIAN

WEDNESDAY  
JULY  
2  
2003

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Raleigh, North Carolina

## Tuition increases again

Gov. Mike Easley signed the state budget into law Monday, including a five percent tuition increase for N.C. State students.

News Staff Report

N.C. State students and parents will have to fork over more money than expected when their tuition and fees bills arrive next week. On Monday, just hours before the state government would have shutdown, Gov. Mike Easley signed the state budget into law - with five percent tuition increases in place.

"This has been a difficult and tense process. But our legislators have again risen to the challenge, as they have done the past two years," Easley said as he signed the bill into law late that afternoon.

His signature quelled fears of a gubernatorial veto that would send parts of the state government into shutdown. Easley had originally threatened not to pass the budget because he said it over projected revenue and depended on unreliable sources for money.

His threats, which surfaced over the weekend, were just another page in the state budget drama where lawmakers pushed a midnight deadline on Monday. Had they not passed a budget before the end of the fiscal year on Tuesday, they would have faced losing \$384 million in revenue from tax breaks.

The final budget included a "Budget Adjustment Act" that gives Easley access to the Rainy Day Fund if lawmakers' revenue estimates are not on target.

For UNC-system students, however, Rainy Day Funds and revenue sources mean less than two words they've faced steadily over the last five years: tuition increases.

Ignoring a request from uni-

BUDGET see page 7

## ACC EXPANSION



University of Miami President Donna Shalala after accepting an invitation to join the ACC. KRT Photo

## Hokies, Hurricanes: 'Yes'

Matt Middleton  
Sports Editor

One was like a little puppy, scratching and clawing — doing anything it could to get inside and join the party. The other was like the popular girl — the reigning prom queen, weighing all its invitations to the dance before choosing the lucky suitor.

Nevertheless, the begging puppy — Virginia Tech — and the prom queen — Miami — will now be forever linked for their part in the ACC's biggest move in its 50-year history. Both schools officially accepted invitations to be admitted to the ACC for the 2004-05 season on June 30. The league will have 11 members beginning August 2004, setting up an interesting year in which the league must decide what to do with two new members, including how the teams should be grouped and how the regular seasons in both football and basketball will be played.

Virginia Tech accepted the invitation via a released statement from president Charles W. Steger. Miami, whom the ACC made no qualms admitting was the coveted piece of the expansion puzzle, held a news conference June 30 and president Donna Shalala announced its decision.

Shalala called the process "bizarre, strange, and goofy." Just five minutes into her announcement, she stated what everyone following the process already knew.

"The Big East was desperate to try and keep us, and the ACC was desperately trying to get us to come," she said.

The Big East was so desperate, in fact, it guaranteed the school \$45 million over the next five years to stay in the league.

Nevertheless, the school accepted the ACC's invite, losing a lot of money initially in doing so, but the move still made sense to Shalala and athletics director Paul Dee. The two cited geographics, the boost it would give the Hurricanes' Olympic sports and long-term stability as the determining factors in the process.

Meanwhile, some 900 miles north in Blacksburg, Va., Steger announced in a press release what had been known since last week: the Hokies would accept an invitation to join the 50-year-old league.

Once a former plaintiff in the still-standing suit against the ACC for unjustly raiding the Big East, the Hokies quickly turned into a viable choice for expansion once Virginia politicians — namely Gov. Mark Warner — became involved, pressuring fellow state institution Virginia to make its crucial vote contingent on its rival being admitted to the league.

Whether that was truly the case or not, the ACC surprisingly extended an invitation to the Hokies after league presidents voted 7-2 in favor of expansion. The move needed seven votes to pass; Duke and North Carolina voted against it.

Despite that face, administrators from Carolina released statements welcoming the two new schools to the league.

"I welcome Miami and Virginia Tech into the ACC," said UNC chancellor James Moeser. "Despite the concerns I have expressed about expansion, we at Carolina are committed to making it work."

Both schools will have to pay a \$3 million entrance fee to the ACC and a \$1 exit fee from the Big East.

## New start for Provost's Office

Colleagues say James Oblinger will help take the university to the next level as provost.

Josianne Lauber  
Senior Staff Reporter

Born to be a leader. The students, faculty and staff who have worked closely with Provost James Oblinger believe it.

His colleagues and students trust that the university has been in good hands since he took the provost position in May.

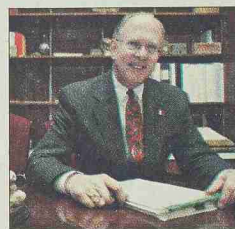
Johnny C. Wynne, a former colleague of Oblinger and the Interim Dean and Executive Director of Agricultural Programs, said he believes he brings a great deal of experience to the position.

"I don't think you will find anyone more dedicated to advancing the mission of N.C. State and strengthening its academic programs than Jim Oblinger," said Wynne.

And many hope the former College of Agriculture and Life Sciences dean will bring some stability to an office that has seen four provosts in the five years since Chancellor Marye Anne Fox's arrival. His predecessor, Stuart Cooper, resigned from the position after Fox fired two top administrators in January.

But Oblinger, who first came to N.C. State in 1986, has no plans on leaving any time soon.

Serving as associate dean and director of academic programs



James Oblinger, former CALS dean, moved into his new office in May. Staff photo by Tim Lytvinenko

in CALS until 1997, and then as dean and executive director for agricultural programs in CALS until 2003, he's had plenty of time to prepare for the duties that lie ahead.

As provost and executive vice chancellor, Oblinger will be second in command of the university and chief academic officer. He is responsible for the review and approval of all academic programs and policies and the appointment, promotion and compensation of university faculty.

Colleagues say that Oblinger has already made remarkable efforts for the university.

While serving as dean, CALS saw steady increases in contracts, grants and private contributions. With more responsibilities and resources available as provost, there are greater things to come for NCSU.

OBLINGER see page 7

## University Dining branches out



Students tasted then rated each new dish. Staff photo by Tim Lytvinenko

Student taste testers got a sneak peek at the University Dining fall menu.

Carie Windham  
Staff Reporter

Between bites at Fountain Dining Hall last week, University Dining got a mouthful from students about their new fall menu.

"Wow, I really like this one, but what is it?"

"This one just looks so good." "Ugh, no," came the chatter from across the tables.

As part of the menu planning process, students were invited to "taste test" a smorgasboard of new vegetarian and dishes that are being considered for the fall menu. Catering to a "vocal minority," the chefs in University Dining have devised an entire new line of dishes for the meat-free crowd. Their creations will debut in Clark and Fountain Dining Halls this fall.

The push for more healthy alternatives heated up after the

Atrium Food Court caught fire in April. When students were given a chance to talk with business manager Randy Lait about the remodeling process, they also voiced concerns that the needs of vegetarian and vegan students were not being met in the dining facilities across campus.

But vegetarian options have always been part of the plan; it just took getting enough momentum and time to get the process going.

Students had originally hoped to have a hand in the recipe process but settled instead for tasting the new dishes that University Dining chefs whipped up.

"They really are the ones that know what they're doing and how to do it," explained Student Body President Tony Caravano, who recruited students through the student government list-serve to sample the line over a three-day period last week.

After sampling the line - which changed each day to get the maxi-

DINING see page 3

## Hillsborough St.

## New York meets Raleigh

Porter's Tavern, another business venture by Frazier's couple Kevin and Stacey Jennings, mixes New York style with college student prices.

Thushan Amarasiriwardena  
Staff Writer

At times, the block on Hillsborough Street from Mitch's Tavern to El Rodeo seemed as if someone had taken a street from New York City and transplanted it in Raleigh. With its metal scaffolding and steady beat of jackhammers, few knew what was occurring under the veil of construction debris.

Next week, the restaurateur couple of Kevin and Stacey Jennings, owners of upscale bistro, Frazier's, will unveil their second eatery, Porter's Tavern, one of a series of businesses that have begun to rejuvenate the street.

Over the din of construction, Kevin Jennings proudly shows off the project, nearing completion. A curved bar, created with opalescent tiles instantly draws ones attention. Painted in chic slate tones, mahogany stained trimming and recessed lighting above, the design seems reminiscent of the slickest of New York City bars.

Generally reserved, Jennings has a hard time containing his excitement as he notes the 14-seat patio eating area and wide French doors that give the tavern an open



The staff of Porter's Tavern prepare for its opening next week. Staff photo by Tim Lytvinenko

air feeling of a street side cafe.

Its menu will feature items approachable to the students across the street with sandwiches, burgers, salads and pastas similar to prices at other eateries on the street.

The new tavern, part of a two-phase plan to expand their business, is not the first time that the couple has brought new flavor to an area that many local residents have dubbed, "the Bermuda Triangle of

business."

Five years ago, the Jennings' walked down Hillsborough Street. Amid the series of pizza joints and bars they asked, "Where would you go for good food?" Their answer was Frazier's, a café that catered to a professional crowd, and not the students across the street.

"When we started [Frazier's] we looked

PORTER'S see page 3



## TECHNICIAN'S VIEW

# Keeping campus diverse

College admission counselors breathed a sigh of relief on June 23 when the Supreme Court ruled that colleges could continue to consider an applicant's race when admitting students for undergraduate and graduate programs.

The University of Michigan had to wait while two different cases, one in response to their law school admissions process and the other in reference to their undergraduate admissions, were decided by the high court. The court ruled in favor of Grutter v. Bollinger by a 5-4 vote, a decision that will allow schools to continue using race as potential factor in admissions. The court's 6-3 vote in Gratz v. Bollinger ruled that the University of Michigan's undergraduate admissions policy, which gives every under-represented minority student twenty points, was unconstitutional.

Colleges will now have to attempt to diversify their incoming classes without allocating points to ensure that each race is well-represented. The Supreme Court's decisions on affirmative action, which go back to 1978, have continued to uphold the idea that diversity is important, and rightly so.

Justice Sandra Day O'Connor cited the following reason for the majority opinion, "Major American businesses have made clear that the skills needed in today's increasingly global marketplace can only be developed through exposure to widely diverse people, cultures, ideas and viewpoints." Colleges and universities must play their part by ensuring that each class is comprised of people that will give every student for such exposure.

That diversity is going to have to come from extremely rigorous admission's policies that take into account a student's economic background, race and

geographic location. Some opponents of affirmative action want college admissions to be based solely on quantifiable facts; a person's SAT scores, number of extra-curriculars, GPA, etc.

However, a student living in Wake County is likely to have many more opportunities than someone living in a poorer area. Most of Wake's high schools have a wide range of advanced placement courses, extra-curricular programs and tutorial services. Also, one student may live in a home with two college-educated parents and receive nightly homework help while another may go home to parents who do not put emphasis on school.

It is not an easy job to be in charge of creating perfect college campuses where every race and almost every part of the country is represented. But it is important that we keep trying.

While the Supreme Court was not unanimous in their decision, they were enough in favor of continuing affirmative action that the vote was 5-4. There may come a time in the future, something that O'Connor predicted in her decisive opinion, when affirmative action will no longer be necessary because applicant pools will automatically have a diverse group of outstanding applicants that stand out from the rest based on the numbers.

However, it was not so long ago that black students were attacked when trying to attend college classes, and it will take at least a few more decades to turn around the results of our ignorant past. The only thing to be done then is to try to make colleges resemble the real world and bring in qualified students that don't just bring good study habits but also their own unique understanding of the world.

# Innocent until guilty



**Michele Decamp**  
Staff Columnist

Once upon a time there was a doctor named Sam Sheppard who lived in Cleveland.

One night he called the police and told them that an intruder had murdered his wife. When the police got to the Sheppard home they immediately began to suspect that Sheppard had killed her, so they arrested him and later tried him for his wife's murder. All the newspapers in the area published articles that suggested Sheppard's guilt, and few were surprised when he was later found guilty.

Ten years later his lawyers managed to get his case to the Supreme Court because they felt that the "carnival atmosphere" that the newspapers had created had convicted Sheppard before his trial. Sheppard was granted a new trial, but he died before he was able to have it.

Flash forward to 2001 and Michael Peterson, local Durham author and former *Durham Herald* columnist, calls the police because his wife has supposedly fallen down a flight of stairs in their home.

Police get to the house and find Peterson cradling his dead wife in his arms. After an autopsy Peterson is indicted for

first-degree murder because his deceased wife's injuries appeared to be too numerous and deep for a fall down the stairs. On July 1, Peterson went to his first day on trial and it is now up to 12 people to determine if he killed his wife.

But will the jury be able to get past the fact that the local media outlets have been all over this story since December 10, 2001? Will they be able to go into that courtroom without having a preconceived notion of the events that took place?

The last *Sunday News and Observer* contained diagrams of the Peterson's home, non-descript heads with Kathleen's lacerations on them, and pictures of the trial line-up including the lawyers, defendant and prosecution. I am not related to Mike Peterson, and I am not sure why I am allowed to be privy to facts from his trial that may or may not determine whether he is guilty. I am Suzie Q. citizen. I have no right to know what is going to go on in that courtroom, but all the local newspapers sure are going to try to make me aware of it.

One of the outcomes of the Sheppard v. Maxwell case was that judges are now allowed to issue gag orders to prevent everyone involved with the trial speaking to the press. I would like to see it happen now.

High-profile cases like local celebrity Mike Peterson or national celebrity O.J. Simpson should not, regardless of whether they are guilty or not, have to

see their trial and information related to it grace the front page of newspapers because it will hurt their chances of getting a fair verdict. How can 12 Durham County citizens come into that courtroom without at least having heard some of the details of this case?

Yes, the lawyers get to choose the jurors, but who knows if they even had jurors to choose from that were completely ignorant about this case.

Everyone is entitled to a fair trial, and if we continue to use the jury system then we have to shut-out the media. A journalist will print any fact, any juicy tidbit he or she can dig up, and the victims can only complain if it isn't true.

The Peterson trial is different from the Sheppard case because the local newspapers have yet to paint Peterson guilty or innocent, but they are providing enough information for the average citizen to come to his or her's own conclusions. It is not our job to decide whether Peterson is guilty or innocent; it is not our business. His trial has nothing to do with anyone outside his family.

I want the courts to acknowledge that the media has gotten out of control and issue gag orders on all trials that are likely to get a lot of media attention. It is time for the public to be shut-out whether they like it or not.

*Michele learned most of this stuff in her ENG 214 class with Mr. Cockshutt. If you want to hear more then e-mail her at mihagem@unity.ncsu.edu.*

# A republic kept and celebrated



**Ben McNeely**  
Staff Columnist

There are many people in this country that are apathetic and cynical towards their country. Many cannot recite the lyrics of "The Star Spangled Banner," name one Supreme Court justice, or worst yet, name the first president. While I

am historically astute and know more about American history than the average citizen, I, too, am cynical and skeptical about a good many things.

But my own silly, cynical idiosyncrasies are not the point. There is something in this country that very few other countries can boast: patriotism.

Americans, on the whole, are very patriotic and it doesn't take a disaster, like Sept. 11, to bring us together as a country. It happens every July 4, around grills and barbecues, on beaches and rolling mountainsides across the country.

Even the most cynical of critics feel a certain tingling when they see a marching band, smell hamburgers on the grill or see the flag raised over the town square. If not, then they must not be human.

On the National Mall, there are many museums and monuments built to those who have dedicated their lives to

the service of their country. The largest of them all, the Washington Monument, is the focal point of them all.

Flanked by the Capitol and the Lincoln Memorial, it stands as a permanent reminder of the man who led our country into existence. Millions of tourists come every year to go atop the monument and look down upon the nation's capital from a bird's-eye perspective.

But come down from the clouds, take a stroll and run into the Korean and Vietnam Memorials. There, you can see firsthand what freedom costs. What is nobler than to fight for another person's freedom, no matter the circumstance or politics of a war?

When it comes down to it, the deaths of countless Americans in the pursuit of liberty and justice are what count and monuments are grand, but pitiful reminders of the great sacrifices made by a special elite group of people.

The Founding Fathers worked hard to create a country with no aristocracy, but in a way, they are our aristocracy. Our legends, our heritage. Thomas Jefferson was a most opinionated man, who hated industry and capitalists, tore out passages from his Bible that he disagreed with, and owned slaves despite his fervent belief that slavery was the worst injustice of them all. Yet he loved this country so much that he helped form and shape it and expand it.

He is the quintessential American: rough yet sophisticated, intelligent but

stubborn and close-minded at times. Always, though, standing for his principles and ethics, even against the harshest criticism. This is America personified.

After recent events, America, as a nation, has been on the receiving end of scathing attacks and criticism.

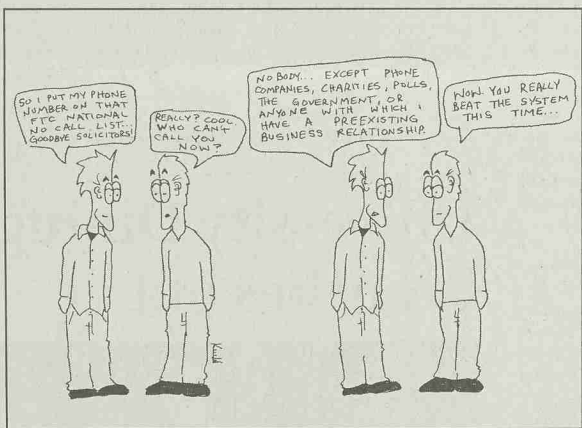
But the only people on the face of the earth that have the right to complain and gripe about America are Americans. No one could ever understand the unique American point of view, just as we cannot understand anyone else from other nations.

Benjamin Franklin was asked, when the Constitutional Convention was over, what sort of country had been created. "A republic, if you can keep it," he replied.

It has been kept for over 225 years now and hopefully will be kept for another century or two. So forget the rest of the world's problems for one day, grab a hot dog and celebrate your freedom. Sit back, enjoy the fireworks and sing the words you do know when the National Anthem is played. Be proud and be patriotic.

If this cynical writer can get pumped up when "Stars and Stripes Forever" is struck up, then anything is possible, especially in the land of the free and the home of the brave.

*If you know the national anthem, can name one Supreme Court justice and the first president, email your answers to Ben at ben@technicianstaff.com and he will mail you a cookie from D.C.*



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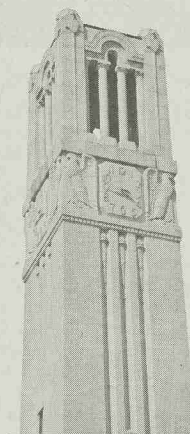
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# Show some support



**Heather Cutchin**  
Staff Columnist

It was brought to my attention recently that local bands do not get that much coverage around the Triangle. Sure, they play a few clubs and 96 Rock has a special "local bands only" session during the week, but that is about it. Our local

guys spend a lot of time and energy on what seems to be an impossible goal: making it in the music industry.

But Raleigh claimed great support for her local boy Clay Aiken, simply because he was on television. He has a great voice, but he does not write any of his own songs that I have heard thus far, nor does he play an instrument.

We packed the RBC center for him, yet we cannot even fill up a single nightclub to listen to a local band play a few of their own songs.

The local bands are out there too. They are advertised up and down Hillsborough Street, all over campus and pretty much all over Raleigh.

They will play for parties, for clubs, for radio promotions or for just a few people sitting in their living room. These people live to make music. Let's let them be heard.

Just over a month ago I was down in New Orleans. It seemed like talent was everywhere, on every street corner, in all of the clubs and bars, and every place was packed.

The music was great, but sadly I realized that most of these bands will never be heard all over the world. Rarely do agents visit the local clubs to "discover" talent, it is too easy to let talent come to the television world of American Idol and other such shows.

Not long after that trip I was up in Richmond, Va. eating out at a small restaurant.

When we walked in, the waitress told us that we were in for a real treat because the boy playing the keyboard was one of the best in town. After listening to him for just a few minutes I agreed with her, he was one of the best singers and keyboard players I had ever heard!

The same thing would happen with him though, he would never be discovered by a producer and his music will never be on the radio.

He is simply a hometown boy that likes to play in restaurants and churches.

I am just curious as to why our local bands do not get the coverage that other town's do. We have just as much pride in our music, right? We appreciate having celebrities from Raleigh and surrounding areas, just like anyone else. Here is my challenge to everyone out there: listen to a radio station that plays local bands. Figure out a few that you like - then become a follower.

Not so obsessed that you know the birthdays of every band member, just know when they are playing and go watch them a few times.

Call radio stations and encourage them to play music from bands that you like. They have the music - they just do not play them because they aren't on a "Top 40" list anywhere.

With a little bit of help, we could have more than just an American Idol from Raleigh.

*Heather is trying to modify her schedule to fit in a couple of nights of local band following. So far she only has the birthdays of a few of the members. If you want to help her get the rest, e-mail her at hrcutchi@unity.ncsu.edu.*





Tempah fajitas were a big hit for many of the student taste testers.

Staff photo by Tim Lytvinenko

## DINING

continued from page 1

mum amount of input - students filled out questionnaires where they rated each item for appearance, taste and smell. They were also asked if they would eat the item at the dining hall.

That data will be compiled and used to select the final dishes for the new menu.

"They're the customers," said Bill Brizzolara, who watched as students dug into his dishes with fellow chefs Peter Fillare and Mack Bell. "We needed to make a change - it was something we wanted to do."

Menu changes are nothing new to University Dining, which tries to add new dishes each semester. But students will see a record number of additions this fall, over 40 new items have been proposed.

Creating the menu was a two-month process, led by University Dining chefs. With most students away for the summer and large portions of the dining halls unused, they had the perfect opportunity to experiment. Work on the spring menu will begin in the next few months.

But for fall, students are - for

## Pepsi reign comes to an end

On Tuesday, Coca-Cola became the official soft drink provider for campus.

News Staff Report

Coca-Cola lovers rejoice.

By July 16, all campus dining halls, drink machines, C-stores and concession stands (except the RBC Center) will be serving Coca-Cola beverages, beginning a five-year contract that ends the reign of Pepsi Cola as official soft drink provider on campus.

The contract became official on Tuesday after a competitive bidding process by the N.C. State Purchasing Department.

Once the new machines are in place, All-Campus Card reader installation will follow. By the start of the fall semester, all locations that previously had card readers will have readers installed.

## PORTER'S

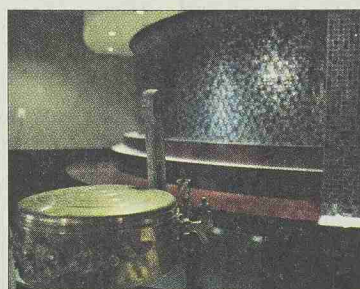
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at what wasn't working on Hillsborough," said Kevin Jennings. Seasonal crowds linked with the schedule of the university simply couldn't sustain a working model year round.

"We had to ask ourselves how could we not be affected," said Jennings. Not marketing themselves to undergrads was their answer.

Instead they developed themselves into a 'destination,' a term used to describe the notion that customers should be coming to Hillsborough Street from afar, for the explicit reason of doing business there and not a model based on casual walk-ins.

Jennings notes that many of his customers are those having a meal before going to the symphony, theater in the park or to see a university production.



Porter's Tavern's new bar (left), a painter finishes up the trim work for next week's opening (right). Staff photo by Tim Lytvinenko

To illustrate the destination model even further he points to two bagel ventures, one that worked, and another that failed.

Bruegger's Bagels, a block down from his restaurant, not only conducts business with the university crowd but also has marketed itself to the local neighborhood.

"If you watch who comes in over there, you'll see that it's an even mix of students and residents of the neighboring community," said Jennings.

Alpine Bagels, a recently closed store on same block as Frazier's, is an example of a different sort. Part of a chain of that has generally installed franchises on campuses, the Hillsborough Alpine Bagels aimed itself directly at the college crowd and floundered within a few months.

Confident in their business model, the couple will continue growth plans with an expansion

of Frazier's starting soon.

But construction on the block has not been limited to just Jennings'.

Playing a game of realtors leapfrog, Hillsborough Street textbooks moved two doors down under the marquee of an old movie theater, opening the space up for Jennings' expansion. Neighboring Chinese

eatery, Golden Dragon, and Mexican El Rodeo facades were repainted and new lighting installed. Mitch's Tavern has also placed new signage.

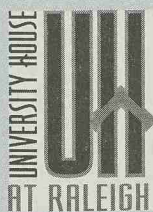
With the continuing sprucing, Jennings genuinely believes that at the very least, his block, if not Hillsborough Street as a whole "in two to three years will be a hot spot."



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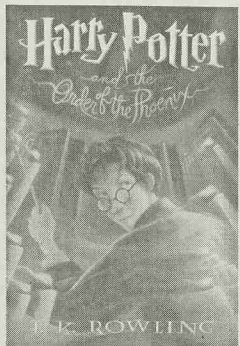
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## 870 words about 870 pages



**Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix**  
J.K. Rowling  
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**Ben Kraudel**  
Staff Reader

There is a lot of pressure involved when you have written what the world deems is the greatest thing to ever happen to children's literature. When what you've written is an ongoing series, the stakes go up, the pressure increases. When you take three years to write the fifth book of a seven-book set, the pressure might be nearly unbearable.

Just ask J.K. Rowling, who just released "The Order of the Phoenix," the fifth book in her Harry Potter heptalogy.

After the success of the first four books and their ability to bring both children and adults together in reading, Rowling is no longer as easily ignored by

the academic community. While she may never reach the ranks of Lewis or Carroll, Rowling is growing throughout her books just as much as her hero, if not more so.

Throughout the first three books, Potter was the utter protagonist, the hero beyond doubt; everyday an adventure and every battle a victory. In the fourth installment, "The Goblet of Fire," Rowling changed the rules. No longer was Potter invincible and beyond reproach. Potter escaped peril at the end of "The Goblet of Fire" but not without witnessing the series' first real tragedy.

Rowling's most recent foray into wizardry begins similarly to the others, with Harry spending the summer with his non-magical guardians, but circumstances have changed. Rowling spends the first several chapters in exposition, reminding the reader that their hero is now fifteen, no longer a boy, but not yet a man.

Above all else, this is a novel about growth. And yes, it is a novel, as Rowling's latest beast can no longer be reasonably called a "children's book." At 870 pages, it is a considerably feat that Rowling could produce a work that could keep the reader interested, much less driven.

"The Order of the Phoenix" is one of rare novels that will leave the reader startled at the fact that hours have passed without note. The novel is entertaining, amusing, at times frustrating, but above all involving. The decisions, the motives all seem much more real in this book. While the earlier

books showed a boy who was a celebrity and a hero, Rowling has finally addressed that such a boy would not, could not be content with his fame when he is followed by death and chaos.

Still, the book does have faults.

It is oddly predictable, a foible that comes with being the fifth in a series. Rowling has not changed the way she builds suspense or how she develops a mystery, so the few questions left in the reader's mind throughout the book are not very difficult to guess. Still, the way the events are written and the humanity she has mustered in her characters this go-round make that less disappointing than one might think.

It must be remembered that this is children's literature, and though it, like many series before it, has caught the eye of adult readers, it does not mean that we must hold it to the same standard as adult literature. Rowling's child readers are growing up along with her hero, and with the three-year wait that has accompanied the release of this latest saga, they could hardly be expected to read and fully enjoy another story that spoke down to them, that treated them like children.

The one true gift that Rowling brings to her writing is that she does not pander or patronize children. She walks a fine line quite successfully. Many children's authors feel the need to remove adults from the story as much as possible. They write the main character's parents rushing in at the last five pages, exasper-

ated and issuing rhetoric about how brave and smart their child proved to be. Others try to put adults in as villains, always to be thwarted, avoided or ignored.

Rowling does none of this, she writes from a growing boy's perspective, but his world reflects our world. He has adults whom he trusts, whom he loves. He has adults he despises or fears. He also has children who fit into both groups. Rowling doesn't feel the need to make it a battle between those who have and have not hit puberty.

The decision I was most distressed by in this book was the long-awaited death of a major character. While I don't see the need to spoil the book for anyone, I wonder at Rowling's intentions. Potter's character is no stranger to death, with both his parents dead before he could walk, but the death in this book seemed somewhat unnecessary.

Still, it is done and it does not detract from the book inasmuch as it simply makes the books a bit sadder, a bit realer, a little bit more like the world we're all sitting down spending 870 pages trying to escape from.

Still, Rowling produced a book that can produce few complaints.

The die-hard Potter fans have a full length novel to spend their time talking about and rereading, while those new to the series have a strong reason to go back and read what came before it. With two books left, there is sure to be a lot more in store for Rowling and her young hero.

## Leave your brain at the door

**Joel Isaac Frady**  
Head Diversion

Summertime cinema isn't exactly known for testing one's intelligence, but two movies in current release attempt to prove that it's better to have no intelligence. While both of them are sequels aimed at female audiences with Luke Wilson in them, the results are far from similar.

**"Legally Blonde 2: Red, White and Blonde"**  
Rating: \*\* 1/2

Starring: Reese Witherspoon, Bob Newhart  
Director: Charles Herman-Wurmfeld

The better of the two is "Legally Blonde 2," which is the only one of many movies this summer (most of which are sequels) that adds a subtitle, adding it's "Red, White and Blonde" to a list that includes "Rise of the Machines," "Legend of the Seven Seas," "The Cradle of Life" and "Full Throttle," just to name a few. Other than the ridiculous title, though, "Blonde" works well enough on its disgustingly cute premise and stream of brainless jokes to keep most people happy, regardless of gender.

Reese Witherspoon returns as Elle Woods, the blonde that manages to fulfill almost every blonde stereotype there is. Once again, she's facing odds that would seem ridiculous to any other person (here, she's trying to pass a bill through the national congress to stop animal testing so her dog's mother can attend her wedding)

but she walks in wearing pink and makes it look easy.

Had it stuck with this light-hearted fair, it might have been really good instead of "just okay," but it attempts to take on important issues about honesty and politics, and this is wear it goes wrong. Any movie that attempts to get laughs — in more than one situation — that involve a conservative Republican with a gay dog shouldn't try to do anything more than a dumb comedy with blondes and gay dogs. Instead of adding a nice, warm feeling to the end of "Legally Blonde 2," it feels like the end of a "Sesame Street" sketch when Big Bird explains the moral or lesson. This strategy has only been proven to work effectively on audiences under seven and occasionally on "South Park."

Still, Witherspoon is quickly establishing herself as Hollywood's newest sweetheart, and if "Legally Blonde 2" is any indication, she's on the way. With her likable persona and incredibly white teeth, it's as hard to dislike Elle as it is to dislike Jackie Chan — whether that's a compliment to her or Jackie Chan, I'll let you decide.

**"Charlie's Angels: Full Throttle"**  
Rating: \*

Starring: The Angels, Bernie Mac  
Director: McG

When the first "Charlie's Angels" film came out in November 2000, I went into the theater with my mind clear and had an incredibly good time and ended up giving it a flattering three-and-a-half

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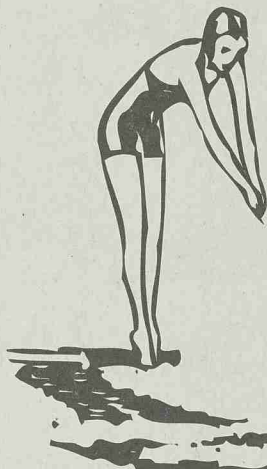
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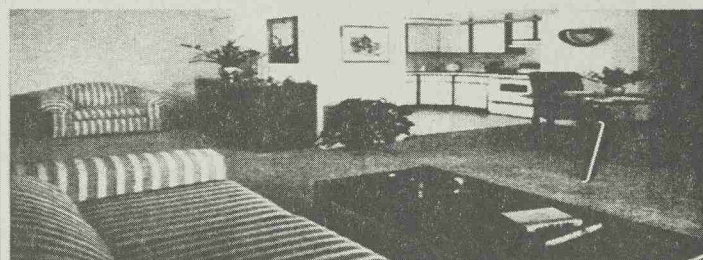
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stars. In my review, I noted that it "[was] to secret agent films what 'Scream' was to horror films ... it obeys every rule of the genre while at the same time making fun of it." I liked that film because it didn't take itself too seriously and knew how to have a good time, and I went into "Full Throttle" hoping for a similar experience.

Sadly, "Full Throttle" is too busy trying to be a successful summer sequel than it is trying to have the kind of fun that its predecessor had. It still has a couple of fun action sequences and a ridiculous plot, but the time that the first spent working on laughs was instead used to cram in as many celebrity cameos and the claim

that it could be the platform for Demi Moore's comeback. You know it's a bad sign when the best scene in the movie doesn't have any of the Angels or Bosley, but you know it's a worse sign when that scene has Matt LeBlanc (and John Cleese, who provides the only reliable laughs in the picture).

What happened in the two and a half years between the original and this one could make for a great FOX documentary or Jerry Springer, something along the lines of "When Sequels Go Bad." I'd recommend watching that television special, if it ever got made, before ever setting foot near a screen that's showing "Charlie's Angels: Full Throttle."

## Summer lovin', summer not

Tim Coffield  
Staff Writer

Ah, summertime - that delicious time of the year when the matchstick heat and the wet-towel humidity combine to siphon sweat glands like a polygraph on Martha Stewart - is upon us.

To abridge my own sweat production, I try to move as little as possible, an approach remarkably similar to that which I practice in the other three seasons. But in the end, the sun wins. Sitting on a rusty lawn chair in my (unmowed) backyard, I'm wetter than Chancellor Fox at the Gentleman's Club last Thursday (It was Slip'n'Slide Night).

My pert nipples are clearly visible through my T-shirt, thanks the saran-wrapping effect of my voluminous torso sweat. They are light-colored, dark-tipped, and pokey, like little pink pencils. Sometimes, a gnat or two will alight on the tips. I don't flinch. I imagine that they are cooling off on my nipple-y little sweat beads.

I'm on vacation at the exotic locale of Garner, NC, soaking up some rays, tanning my neck and forearms. After everything that just happened, I'm left with nothing but hindsight, bitter regret, and a bathroom full of tampons and dog-eared Cosmo magazines. I am trying to forget, trying to escape.

Reeling from the recent termination of my relationship, I drown my sorrows with cardboard buckets of Bojangle's

chicken and blocks of mother's nutty fudge. The grease from the chicken coupled with the intense heat makes my face break out like an eighth-grader who shaved his face backwards. But I don't care - not anymore, anyway.

It all started when Technician named me to their prestigious list of the 50 Most Beautiful People Named Tim That Are Also Hare-Lips. Ever the opportunist, I cunningly parlayed my newfound fame into a relationship with a (real live!) girl (no more inflatable dolls! With all these cigarettes, my lungs couldn't very well handle the inflation process anymore - at least not at the frequency that I required).

She told me she loved my razor sharp mind and my laid-back personality. I called her my African beauty queen. She moved in with me. I felt like I had won some sort of important conquest and I was extremely proud of my accomplishment.

Once I had a girlfriend and thus removed myself from the competitive waters of the Raleigh dating pool, my need for extensive personal hygiene started to wane. I just didn't see the use of going out of my way to look and smell excellent for people to whom I was unavailable. (It just wouldn't be fair to them, I figured.)

I mean, the whole "healthy diet" and "daily face-washing" always was a bit of a hassle. But that was in my past days of bachelor-hood, where I had immaturely placed emphatic emphasis on such superficial pursuits. I mean, my

girlfriend - she wasn't affected by the fleeting phases of physical appearance. She loved me for who I was - not what I looked like.

I stopped eating real meals. It became far more convenient - and delicious - to feed myself throughout the day a steady stream of nutty fudge blocks, Crisco sandwiches and twice-fried pork rinds. Often times, I would eat my Crisco and chocolate in bed, from which I frequently did not rise until the sun had gone down.

With a girlfriend, I felt going out of the house would perhaps make the others girls jealous. I didn't want that.

It was a relief, really. My new relationship felt like I had come to the finish line of a long and tortuously painful marathon. There was no need to go out on the weekends, do sit-ups, iron my pants or use soap. With a girl that loved me for my brain and not my body, I could finally relax. At last I could be myself, my real self.

As I sit here now, alone, my sweat collecting in a little puddle on my lap, I reflect on the end. I find myself wondering where it all went wrong. I look at my chest. The gnats appear to be having a little party on my moist nipples.

A couple months into the relationship, I was collecting pounds like a British credit union, thanks to my delightfully sedentary existence. However, my personality and razor sharp mind were at their fittest. I would often make witty remarks to my

girlfriend from my lawn chair, in between nibbles of fudge, as she mowed the yard or polished my deck furniture.

The girl had increased her frequency of such annoying comments as "How about coming to aerobics class with me today?" or "How about eating some of these carrot sticks instead of dipping that fried chicken in Crisco again?" or "What about a nice shower sometime soon?"

I detected a growing sense of unease whenever she was around me. I noted a correlation between my ballooning weight and her dwindling appreciation for my wit and intellect. She didn't kiss me like she used to. The heavier I grew, the more I came to sense that the end was near. Ultimately, I was forced to look deep within and re-evaluate myself. Was I where I really wanted to be in my life?

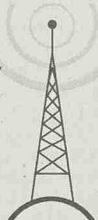
I soon decided that no, I was certainly not where I needed to be. Things had to change. I could live like this no more. I was sickened by what I had become.

I broke up with her on a Tuesday. She was quite distraught when I kicked her out, and she left all her things behind. I've been relaxing in this rusty lawn chair ever since, sweating, tanning, enjoying my fudge, watching the gnats.

One day, I will find a girl that loves me for me.

*Tim is looking for his lost cat. If you find it give it back. He's almost out of tennis rackets. Tcoffie@unity.ncsu.edu*

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# Sports

TECHNICIAN - WEDNESDAY, JULY 2, 2003 | 6

## A lesson from the diamond



**Matt Middleton**

Seventeen percent. Ten out of 58. Like those odds? If you were a collegiate underclassmen who entered last week's

professional basketball.

There is no better example than Powell. The sophomore ended the last season playing the best basketball of his career and had a career of All-ACC days ahead of him. Instead, he cashed it in for a future in the NBDL or a country where basketball is just an afterthought.

How many more years must this go on before the NBA collaborates with the NCAA to formulate a plan of action that would better both parties? All they have to do is look no further than the nation's pastime for a plan that appeases both the professional franchises -- and keeps in mind the interests of the amateur athlete.

For starters, the NBA and commissioner David Stern -- if he could forget about marketing the game globally and deal with the far more important domestic problems -- must underwrite a minor league similar to that of Major League Baseball. Every team would finance its own farm club. This would create a more sensible developmental league; one that actually creates an influx of its own players into the league ala the promotion system we see in MLB.

Also benefiting from this plan would be the college game. The new minor league would cater

to those players completely uninterested in going to school for the academics, a number that is dangerously high in today's game. That type of player would go immediately to the developmental league from high school and save the collegiate game for real student-athletes.

Teams could afford to stick the high schoolers in the minor league for a year or two while they learned the team-specific system instead of clogging up a valuable roster spot like countless rookies do today while they learn on the job.

Like baseball, players that decide to enroll in college would be committed to the school for a minimum of three years. Among other things, this would eliminate the distractions that inevitably surface after every offseason that speculate who is going to the draft and who is staying in school. Minimized then would be the sleazy agents who hang around the players during and after the season in an attempt to woo them to their company. If the rule states players could not leave until after their junior season, slimeball agents wouldn't be a problem for at least two of the years a potential NBA player is in school.

The problem is, this is all a pipe dream. It's a far too simple system for the NCAA to adopt. For now, the rampant problems that have become far too abundant in the amateur basketball system will continue to reign.

And that's sad for the game. It's sad for college basketball fans. And most of all, it's sad for the sometimes-blinded players.

Players like Josh Powell.

Matt can be reached at 515-241- or matt@technicianstaff.com.



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Female roommate wanted to share 3BD/3BA brand new apartment at University Woods. \$320/mo+1/3 utilities. Available July 1st. Call Laurie at 661-0966 or 274-7904.

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3 male roommates wanted for Lake Park. \$325/mo + 1/4 utilities. Cable/internet, W/D, parshie furnished. Across from Lake Johnson. 233-1937

NCSU, 5 min. off-campus. Female roommate, early August. Parkwood Village Apartments. Cute, spacious, 2BD, sweet roommate. \$297/mo+1/2 utilities. Includes water. Call Debbie at 252-937-2661.

\$500+1/2 utilities. Share townhouse with quiet, professional female. Prefer mature grad student. Community gym, golf, tennis and pool. 212-3930.

Wanted: Responsible male to share house with 2 roommates and a big, friendly dog. \$291+1/3utills. Nice place. Five min drive from campus. **LEAVE A MESSAGE** at 835-0961. Will call back ASAP!

Two male roommates needed at University Woods condo. \$275/mo. +1/4 utilities. Private bed/bath. Available July 1st. Call Stephen at 618-4895.

Available now free, rent in July. Wolfline, Parkwood Village.

2BD/1BA, washer, pool, free cable, volleyball court, \$305+1/2 util. 829-9205 Carrie.

Female/Male Roomate wanted ASAP to share 4BD/2.5BA, pets welcome, fenced in backyard, deck, great location off Trinity Rd., close to campus, 1400.sq.ft \$333/mo+util. (919)-454-4591

Roommate needed ASAP M/F 4BD/4BA private room. Available immediately, 12mo lease, pets ok. \$375/mo. \$300 for the first month. Includes utilities except internet and LD phone. No security deposit. Call Scott at 616-2256 for more info.

3 Bedrooms each with Private Bath at Lake Park Condos. W/D, microwave, pool, volley ball, nonsmokers. \$325+1/4 utilities. Call 467-6776 or 414-7362. Available August 1st.

2BD/2BA, 1 mile from campus, lease runs until 12/03, \$500/mo includes everything. Will pay first month's rent. 832-9315

1 female roommate needed to share 4BD/4BA apt. in Lake Park. Pool, basketball court, volleyball court, w/d, a/c, \$325/mo+1/4 utilities. Call Deanna, daytime: 252-291-2172, night: 252-239-6550, or cell: 252-315-6516.

Lake Park Condo. 2BD w/priv. bath. High-speed cable in bedrooms, W/D, microwave, dishwasher. Non-smoker. \$300/mo. + 1/4 utilities. Call 919-851-4910 or 704-392-1506.

## Room for Rent

Student special. 6 furnished bedrooms, single house. Fireplace, deck, garage. \$300/month. (2409 Laurel Falls) Phoenix Realty 467-4596.

\$150/month plus electric. One room cabin on private grounds. Furnished. Near Wake Tech Community College. For serious student only. No smoker, please. 557-0675.

Lake Park condo. 2 rooms and 2 baths available in 3rd floor 4BD unit. W/D included. \$300/mo. First month free with lease and security deposit. 919-304-4372 or 919-423-4837.

Rooms for rent at Lake Park. Available August. Great rent + 1/4 utilities. Call 858-0597.

## Condos For Rent

Condo for rent near NCSU. Trailwood Heights. 3BR/2BA, W/D, refrigerator, microwave oven, lots of parking available. Three years old. \$900/mo. Mint condition. Available immediately. Call 846-7351.

4BD/4BA Lake Park Condo. All appliances including W/D, 2 phone lines in each room, across from Lake Johnson Park. \$400/mo+1/4 utilities. 919-553-6347 vbuckles@yahoo.com

Near NCSU/WOLFLINE! University Oaks 4BR/4BA 1st floor condo avail 8/1. \$1196/mo for the unit (\$299/mo per room). FREE INTERNET!!! Call 515-5411 for add. info.

4BD/4BA Condo with W/D on Wolfline. \$1000/mo. Available June 30. Call Patti at 291-6379.

3 or 4BD Condo. University Commons. On Wolfline. W/D \$1000/mo. 417-6363.

For rent, near NCSU, 4BD/4BA condo at Lake Park. W/D, pool, volleyball. Near Wolfline. 1st floor. \$1000/mo. Call 662-9996 or 567-3737.

4BR/4BA Lake Park condo for rent. \$275/month per room + utilities. W/D and all basic appliances. Available Aug. 2003. Call David @ 467-1866.

## Parking For Rent

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## Townhomes For Rent

3BD/2.5BA On Wolfline. Pool, fenced-in backyard. \$850. 217-8240 or 673-1029.

Available July. One month free rent. \$500/mo. 2BD/1.5BA townhome, 1 mile from campus. 252-230-4745

## Condos For Sale

\*MOTIVATED SELLER\* Lake Park Condos. 4BR/4BA. Near NCSU. \$104,900. Priced below tax value. Call Deaton & Assoc. at 919-878-4440.

ATTENTION: 2 Investment Condos at University Commons. Priced to sell. \$110,500 each. On the Wolfline. Call Deaton & Assoc. at 919-878-4440.

Investment opportunity. University Commons. \$108,000. On Wolfline. Call Josh 417-6363.

ONE MONTH FREE CONDO. 4BR/4BA University Oaks. Minutes from campus. Private bath & large walk-in closet per bedroom. Appliances, Patio, Balcony. Cablevision, phone, Internet per room. \$295 / month. Call: 787-1076 (eve).

## Help Wanted

PT and FT help needed for hardwood flooring company easy hours 919-422-2654

DOG SITTER needed. Get paid to play with adorable black lab and stay in our comfortable home. Must be a reliable, trustworthy petlover. Will need to stay overnight when we go away. House is 10 min. from campus. Sitter may also be needed for occasional mid-day walk. Call 233-6633.

**Bartender Trainees needed.** \$250 a day potential, local positions, 1800-293-3985 extention 521

Attention graduating students. Are you sharp and ambitious? Need to pay your student loans? Job market not looking good? Visit: [www.globalsuccess2000.com/mwjr](http://www.globalsuccess2000.com/mwjr)

**Omega Sports** on Falls of Neuse Rd. has openings for PT sales associates. Competitive hourly pay, flex. scheduling, buying incentives and training. Call 871-0311 or email [rhager@omegasports.net](mailto:rhager@omegasports.net)

Now hiring part-time/full-time. Great pay! Seeking females for massage. Training available. 919-524-4611.

Children's Resale Store looking outgoing, self-motivated person for part-time sales position. Call 876-8550.

**Kennel Worker-Veterinary Assistant** needed on weekends at small animal hospital. Pre-veterinary student preferred. Call 533-8468.

Chiropractor's office seeking part-time front office person. 3:30pm-7 or 8pm M-F. Call 872-8981. Training provided. Starting at \$9/hr.

**Veterinary Assistant** needed for one of the best-equipped animal hospitals in North Carolina. Applicant must be able to work 2 to 4 full days per week (M-SAT) during school year. Employee will learn venipuncture, intubation, intravenous catheter placement, and become proficient in performing laboratory tests. Fifty percent of time will be spent in training or performing skilled tasks; fifty percent will be spent with general cleaning or kennel duties. Ideal position for someone with veterinary school aspirations. Veterinary scholarship program available for individual completing 1 year of full-time work. Call Dr. Mike at Clayton Animal Hospital-553-4601.

# BUDGET

continued from page 1

versity administration and the UNC-system Board of Governors for a "tuition freeze," in-state and out-of-state students can expect to pay 5 percent more for tuition this year. It equates to roughly \$140 for in-state students and \$700 for students outside North Carolina's borders.

Jonathan Ducote, who has fought against the increases as president of the UNC Association of Student Governments, was not surprised.

"The moment [the Board of Governors proposal] hit the floor, it was more or less shot down," he said. "Students fought as hard as they could but this year it is as it's been for the last two years. It has been an incredibly difficult budget season to try to invoke serious positive change for the university."

But it's not that students didn't try.

Members of the ASG and student governments at each of the 16 UNC campuses invoked e-mail campaigns, met with legislators and lobbied each week until the budget was passed. At "Students Day at the Capitol" in February, over 600 students rallied and spent the day meeting with legislators.

"I think the students did the best they could with what they had to get the message across that the university is losing accessibility," said Ducote.

The encouraging part, Ducote

says, is that the tuition increases will help support enrollment growth at the state's universities, expected to be around 4.5 percent.

"What they've done is taxed students to provide enrollment growth," he said. "It's good that they are finding money to let more students into the system but at the same time, they are shutting current students out."

It's not only student pockets that will be feeling the budget crunch.

The UNC-system was given \$61.6 million in flexible budget cuts. Cuts for individual institutions will be evaluated by each university's chancellor.

Coupled with the one time and permanent cuts that the university has had to perform over the last three years, Ducote said, cuts are eating away at the university's ability to offer quality and affordable education.

"The accessibility of the university is slowly eroding away with these continued cuts," he said.

And though the books may have closed on this year's budget, Ducote said the students' presence downtown is only going to get stronger.

"We keep working," he said. "Our ability to interact with members will never stop. To be a serious presence downtown you need to have those personal relationships. We'll be working to broaden those and to make them understand the true student condition at all 16 campuses."

# OBLINGER

continued from page 1

Provost Oblinger stresses, however, that it is not just his efforts that drive the Provost's Office's responsibilities. "Although the provost is responsible for a lot of things, it just doesn't happen by virtue of that individual--there's very much a team approach."

To Oblinger, teamwork consists of a large mix of people. "There's the chancellor working in concert with the provost or the vice chancellors with their functional responsibilities...certainly the deans, associate deans, the department heads, department chairs, and then students faculty and staff working together--all of that is part of this mix. Working together, it all gets done."

To Oblinger, each an every part of this "mix" is a vital one and values each element. This belief did not go unnoticed by those who worked with him.

Student Body President Tony

# ICE CREAM

continued from page 8

for NCSU students to enjoy. It is a great place for large groups to meet in, and you can always walk across the street and bask in the shade under the Bell Tower as you enjoy your frozen treat. They also have a trivia question on the wall that if answered correctly will earn you a free "mix-in." Also, if you are a part of the Pack Meal Plan, then you will be especially happy to eat here because they are one of the participating restaurants.

Caravano noticed Oblinger's strong commitment to students.

"Dr. Oblinger has already made a concerted effort to be in direct communication with students, including myself on important issues facing the University," said Caravano, "He understands many issues that are important to students at this time and inquires about new issues as they arise."

"During his time as dean, from 1997 to 2003, Jim was a real champion of our students and faculty and staff members. He values partnerships, and he works hard -- over long hours -- to build and strengthen partnerships that benefit our university and the people we are here to serve," said Wynne.

Vicki Walton, the administrative officer for the office of the provost, knew Oblinger long before he came to her office.

"I would say James Oblinger is very dedicated, very student-oriented and a very fair administrator. He is the best and he really does have the university's best

interest at heart," said Walton.

One effort to uphold the university's best interests is already underway--the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) Review. Oblinger mentioned he, Chancellor Fox and others will be working on that over the summer and will send it off in August for review.

"There will be a team on campus of experts from all over the country in March reviewing us--that accreditation is very important to us," said Oblinger.

Another top priority to Oblinger is student experience and quality faculty.

"The role of administration is facilitating not just students and staff, but in particular the faculty."

"If you look at all the high quality programs that N.C. State has, those emanate from a high quality faculty regardless of discipline. The quality of programs is directly related to the quality of the faculty," said Oblinger.

Oblinger, although well-armed,

feels the most difficult challenge he will face this coming year will be dealing with the budget: "We already know there will be some type of reduction...Until we know the magnitude of this potential cut, other than thinking about what we may have to do, no action has been taken."

Although NCSU will be expecting budget cuts, Oblinger put it in the larger picture.

"We should recognize we are not alone in this. Higher education across America, in most every state I can think of, is facing a very significant budget challenge," said Oblinger.

George Bartholmus, a retired associate dean and director of academic has worked with Oblinger since 1994 until his retirement in 2001. Bartholmus had nothing but praise for his colleague

"Mark my words, we will all see a difference even though these are difficult economic times for N.C. State. He'll move us ahead...as excellent leaders always do."

The Cream and Bean is more expensive than the national chains, but it has a great location with a nice "NCSU" feel to it, not to mention fantastic ice cream.

## The Ice Cream Shoppe

Talley Student Center, campus 4 and a half scoops

Cheap ice cream actually exists!

For 95 cents you can get a cup or cone with one huge scoop of ice cream (\$1.90 for two scoops), and judging by the number of people eating ice cream in and outside Tallev, the concept has definitely

caught on. It is not the most attractive set-up, and you will have to ask someone or look at a list on the wall to determine what each tub is, but it is cheap! The ice cream is made at NC State, and it does have a homemade taste to it, and it is cheap!

Apparently vegetarians can also eat it because it does not contain any animal products, which they seem to be very proud of, and it is directly connected to the Emporium in Talley, so you can buy your ice cream, candy and milk at the same time. Their flavors range from orange sherbet to chocolate chocolate chip, and

they have a total of twelve flavors for you to choose from.

If you don't feel like eating your ice cream in the normal dining area then you can go outside and sit under a tree behind Talley and enjoy your ice cream there.

And since it is located across from Carmichael Gym, maybe weight-conscious students will go across the street and work off the extra calories. Overall, students should definitely seek out Talley's recent addition because if you are just really in the mood for a cup of cookies and cream ice cream then this is definitely the place.



# Diversions

By Michele DeCamp  
Staff Writer

It's summer, and when the sun occasionally peeks out on campus, it cannot help but heat things up a bit. And most students know that the best way to cool down after a trek across the Brickyard or an afternoon at Doak Stadium is with a nice, chilly cup or cone of ice cream.

The N.C. State community has recently witnessed a few new locations pop up for such treats, and it is time that they were entered into a scoop-off to see whose ice cream reigns supreme. It was this dedicated journalist's job to go to each shop and record how the ice cream tasted, what kind of location and atmosphere it was served in, and whether or not the staff was friendly as they helped their customers. I have finally completed my wearisome task, and I am proud to bring you the scoop-off results:

**Silvia D'Italia Gelato Cafe**  
Hillsborough Street  
Rating: 4 Scoops

This semi-recent addition to Hillsborough Street boasts "a truly Italian experience." One of the best examples of this is that they don't serve ice cream; they serve gelato, which is Italian ice cream that is too low in fat to be called regular ice cream. They have the standard chocolate and vanilla for the unadventurous, but you can also pick up a scoop of kiwi or banana gelato as well. All their gelato is made daily on the premises.

Their fruit flavors are their greatest strength because these unique choices set them apart from other local ice cream shops. They are also located right across from D.H. Hill, so their location is perfect for students looking to pick up a quick treat in-between classes or orientation seminars.

Their only fault is that the Gelato almost too for the average student. They serve Panini (Italian Sandwiches) and salads as well as gourmet coffee and the exotic

fruit flavors may scare off some ice cream lovers. The "Italian aura" over the place makes it seem like it would be more expensive than it is, but in fact, the prices are very reasonable considering the portion size. I was surprised at the size of a piccolo (extra small) because it was the size of a normal small or one scoop at other locations but was only \$1.99. They have adequate seating inside despite their small square footage and diners will find a few tables and chairs outside to sit on during sunny days.

Overall, the staff was very pleasant and the gelato was fantastic. The mixed berry was superb and even the kiwi gelato had a nice flavor. If you can get past the Italian lingo, you will find that this is a nice alternative to typical ice cream parlors and franchised chains.

**Baskin-Robbins**  
Cameron Village  
Rating: 3 Scoops

You will have to make a small hike to this ice cream shop in Cameron Village, but it has the most options for the cheapest price. Baskin-Robbins is - well, Baskin-Robbins and many students will probably already be familiar with this chain before coming to N.C. State.

There are a whopping 31 flavors to choose from, and they have the most bizarre combinations such as the Deep Blue Menace Sundae for \$1.99 that corresponds to the new animated movie Sinbad. This sundae combines chocolate chip ice cream with blue topping and a few sour gummy octopuses on top for good measure. You can also get a scoop of Oreo X-MINT ice cream after you see the new X-Men

sequel. The commercialization gets old after a while, but they also have low-fat and more standard flavors as well.

This particular location has gotten a little dingy, but they have a few outdoor tables in case you want to escape the bright-colored, ice cream wallpaper. The service was good, and the ice cream itself was delicious.

You cannot beat the prices either. A small cup is \$1.74, and you only have to kick in another .75 cents for a huge waffle cone.

They are located near a handful of restaurants and shops, so this particular store could serve as a dessert-stop for couples and friends. In general, if you are looking for an inexpensive treat then check out Baskin-Robbins.

**Ben and Jerry's**  
Hillsborough Street  
Rating: 2 scoops

What would the world be like without Phish Food or Chunky Monkey, two of Ben and Jerry's most notable ice cream flavors?

Well, it would be a lot cheaper. This chain is probably one of the most recognizable world-wide, and its creative flavors are fun to eat. However there comes a point when atmosphere and taste do not make up the fact that two small cups of ice cream, with nothing extra, will cost you \$5.18. A single scoop in a cup costs \$2.40, and the sundaes, smoothies and shakes will cost you somewhere from \$4-6.

Yes, their ice cream is wonderful and their Chocolate Fudge Brownie yogurt was low in fat but certainly did not taste like it. The serving size was reasonable, and the staff was incredibly friendly, but you are also limited to just ice cream-related products or sweets like cookies and brownies; they only have bottled water for people looking for normal beverages.

Also, their location across from Meredith College's campus

makes it too much of a hike for N.C. State students without vehicles.

This particular Ben and Jerry's has a downtown coffee shop look inside with brick-walls and irregular shaped tables. One nice trait of Ben and Jerry's is that they are very socially conscious. They manufacture their products with companies who work hard to protect the environment and hire employees from disadvantaged backgrounds. They have even introduced a new line of organically-grown flavors that should be hitting their stores soon.

They may have better quality ice cream with a more pristine background, but you will inevitably have to pay more to eat it.

**Cream and Bean**  
Hillsborough Street  
Rating: 5 scoops

This locally-owned ice cream and coffee shop has a convenient location near the Bell Tower, and they can boast the best ice cream with the best atmosphere.

All of the tables and benches in the eatery are wonderfully painted by SAM, whose picture has been lovingly placed on the ice cream counter. They make their own ice cream in the shop, and they have a total of over thirty flavors that rotate daily. This neat and funky restaurant has the most seating, and the staff was very pleasant and helpful.

As for the ice cream, it was wonderful. It tasted like it hadn't just come out of a tub that was shipped across the country, and their menu had everything from chocolate to coconut-flavored ice cream (with coconut pieces in it). A small, but plentiful scoop was \$2.36, and you could get it in a large cone for an extra 56 cents. The sundaes ranged from \$3-6, and they had the greatest number of "mix-ins" such as Heath Bar pieces.

There is something to be said for supporting local businesses and the Cream and Bean is a perfect example of an eatery that is designed

# The Great Hillsborough Scoop-off

Staff photo illustration by Cate Windham/Thushan Amarasingwardena

Attention Students!

Make it

# Melrose

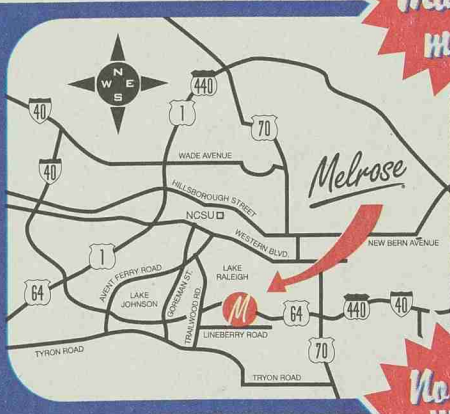
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