

TECHNICIAN

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Raleigh, North Carolina

Out of state,
out of mind

Out-of-state students are often lost in the tuition battle, bearing a higher burden of tuition increases with no legislators to represent their needs at the university.

Anna Edens
News Editor

While students agonize over each tuition and fee increase, the voices of one group of students are often lost in the crowds.

Out-of-state students who come to N.C. State for its specialized programs can be expected to feel each tuition increase with an even greater magnitude, and with the proposed 5 percent tuition increase for next year, the cost for an out-of-state student's tuition will rise by \$705.

The estimated tuition and fees for an out-of-state undergraduate to attend NCSU during the 2003-4 year is \$15,113, which makes the \$3,829 price tag for in-state students look much more manageable.

Chris Smith from Massachusetts is starting his junior year studying accounting, and he sees the lure of in-state status.

"I have been looking for a couple of ways to change my residency so that I am considered an in-state resident," said Smith. "But being that I'm almost done with school and it takes a year once you file, it's not really worth it for me. I'll hopefully be a senior after the fall."

When accounting for room and board, books, transportation and personal expenses, the price of an NCSU education skyrockets to \$23,631 a year as soon as you set foot across the state line - numbers that look like the price tag of many private institutions.

The numbers, however, are not deterring incoming freshmen for now.

Out-of-state applications have actually increased from 3,091 in the fall of 2002 to 3,240 in the fall of 2003, according to Tommy Griffin, senior associate director of undergraduate admissions.

Getting those applicants to come is a different story. The UNC system has set an 18-percent cap on out-of-state students in a state institution's student body, but NCSU is nowhere

close to this cap.

In the fall of 2002, out-of-state students made up only 369 of the 3,732 incoming freshmen - not even 10 percent - according to documents from University Planning and Analysis.

"It's a much harder sell because of the difference in tuition costs. We are the second-most expensive public university for out-of-state students in the ACC [behind the University of Virginia]," said Griffin. "The total cost a student has to pay is a big hurdle to overcome."

Financial aid is often difficult to come by for many of these students during times of state-sponsored tuition increases.

"We offer financial aid to meet as much of that need as possible, but because of limited grant and scholarship dollars it is not always possible to meet the full needs of out-of-state students," said Julie Rice Mallette, associate vice provost and director of scholarships and financial aid.

"If we cannot offer increased scholarship and grant support, which is often the case, those students will have to come up with the funding to cover additional tuition costs from other sources such as private loans," said Mallette.

That's why tuition increases can often hurt those from other states. The students are often ineligible to borrow more money or receive additional scholarships and aid.

"Students who have very high financial need (whose families can contribute little if anything towards their educational expenses, according to the FAFSA information provided) may have difficulty meeting increased tuition costs. The reason is such students have often already borrowed the maximum loan amounts for which they are eligible," said Mallette.

When NCSU itself increases tuition, the school can decide how to allocate resources for financial aid for needy schools.

According to Mallette, "NCSU has traditionally contributed at least one-third of such revenues for need-based financial aid ... Generally priority for these funds is given to students with

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Board members listen as Andy Willis reports on legislative affairs. Staff photos by Tim Lytvinenko

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
BEGINS 2003-04 SESSION

Thushan Amarasiwardena
Staff Reporter

The N.C. State Board of Trustees met Monday in Holladay Hall for their first of five meetings this academic year. The daylong meeting discussed a variety of issues that were projected to arise over the coming year including budget, tuition and fee hikes and commencement speaker selection, along with the swearing in of three new board members.

Student Body President Tony Caravano along with Robert Jordan and Steven Warren were sworn in, replacing seats vacated by members of the board who left in April.

Caravano - the only student on the board - holds a voting position and directly represents the student body. Afterwards, Caravano said that he was glad "to see that the student trustee has as much of an impact on the decision making process as [the rest of the board] do."

As a new member, Caravano was part of an orientation session where he learned the workings of the BOT. He later explained that much of the work is conducted in smaller committees comprised of a handful of trustees. Afterwards they bring their decisions to the full board.

But Caravano and his peers weren't given much time to dwell on their new responsibilities. After the brief orientation, they joined the board for briefing by Chancellor Marye Anne Fox on current issues at the university, including the smooth transition of Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor Jim Oblinger into his new post on May 19.

Fox also discussed her continued commitment

to holding one-on-one student and faculty office hours each month.

One of the most pressing issues of the day came down to money - or the lack thereof.

Andy Willis, assistant to the chancellor for external affairs, briefly presented and went over budget reductions for both the UNC system as a whole and those directed at NCSU.

Of the nearly \$1.8 billion budget authorized for the whole university system, NCSU saw a 3.5 percent reduction from the 2002-03 fiscal year. A tuition increase of about 5 percent - increasing revenue by \$24 million - partially bridged that shortfall.

TRUSTEES see page 4



(Above) Tony Caravano (from left), Steven Warren and Robert Jordan are officially sworn in to their new duties. (Below) Andy Willis distributes copies of the UNC-system budget to board members. Willis updated the board about cuts to the operating budgets of the 16 UNC campuses and N.C. State.



Rare hawks slow construction

Plans for the new Public Safety facility were put on hold for some feathered inhabitants.

Christin Liverance
Staff Reporter

As development in Raleigh continues to flourish, so does the need to balance construction with coexisting with native wildlife. And one doesn't have to look past N.C. State's campus to know that.

Plans for construction of the new Public Safety facility at NC State University were altered in early June when workers stumbled upon a nest containing four baby Cooper's hawks in a tree scheduled for demolition.

The University consulted the North Carolina Wildlife Commission, the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as to what should be done. They found that Cooper's hawks are rare birds and are federally protected by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Construction was not stopped completely, but officials recommended shifting the development away from the tree containing the nest until the hatchlings were old enough to fly.

"We have construction that needs to be done, but we also wanted to do what is right for these birds that need protection," said John Palmiter, construction manager at NC State. Palmiter also said that moving to other areas of the project

has delayed some parts of the job but they still expect to finish on time.

Completion for the facility is slated for April of 2004.

Cooper's hawks were named after William Cooper, who collected the first specimens used to describe the species. Cooper's hawks are often found in broken woodland areas and feed mainly on smaller birds and mammals.

The hawk's forward facing eyes enable them to possess excellent depth perception for hunting and catching small prey while flying at high speeds. They have short, rounded wings and long tails which make them agile flyers in heavily wooded areas.

Adults have blue-gray upper bodies and

reddish-brown breasts with white barring. Cooper's hawks nest in coniferous forests, usually laying 4 or 5 eggs at a time. Both parents tend to the young after they hatch, and hawklings are able to fly after about 27 to 34 days. Juveniles become independent around 8 weeks.

These generally elusive birds suffered serious population declines during the 1940s and 1950s when the use of pesticides affected their reproduction. Since then they have been placed under federal protection and research shows that they are able to live more than 7 years in the wild.

As of June 27, the hawks were nowhere to be found, and construction returned to normal.

Student
design
team wins
\$6,000

"Diet Download," a PDA program, took third place at the 4th annual IEEE Computer Society International Design Competition.

Anna Edens
News Editor

Will these Pokey Sticks put me over my daily carb limit? Do I need to buy more Ramen Noodles at the store? With a new invention by a group of N.C. State students, you won't have to wonder anymore.

The student team recently created a device to help dieters and shoppers, and they won \$6,000 for their "Diet Download" Personal Digital Assistant (PDA) at the 4th annual Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) Computer Society International Design Competition.

The students placed third in the competition for the program, in which users can create a "virtual pantry" by scanning bar codes to keep track of recent weight history and to provide specific nutritional information to help users adhere to dietary restrictions - all in their handheld organizer. The device also records what foods you have in stock or need to replenish.

Team members Nathan Green, Jeremy Maness, Buck Webb and J.R. Wilson were the only group from the United States in the top ten, out of the 170 groups from across the world that submitted designs.

"I don't know about anybody else, but I didn't expect it to go to the top ten," said Wilson.

"We started on the project near the end of January, and we had pretty extensive planning going on because we were doing this as a senior design class as well, so we had to submit things to professors along the way."

The group's focus, in fact, was largely on the senior design project instead of the national competition, and "[I was] mainly more concerned with getting it to a point where we could submit it to Robert Fornaro and Margaret Heil and get a good grade," said Wilson.

Two team members have since graduated, and, "We didn't find out that we made the top ten until after their graduation. After then, we had to get back on the ball and start working on it again," said Wilson.

The group members chose the project idea because, "The principle problem was to design something that would benefit society and address a societal problem. We brainstormed about five different things, and it boiled down to a classroom environment-type project or this, and we decided on the diet download," said Wilson.

Along the way, there were a few project complications, largely dealing with the aspect of utilizing Palm software. In addition, teams were limited to spending no more than \$400 on the external equipment.

DESIGN see page 4

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WRAL TAKES OUT THE TRASH

OUR OPINION: WRAL'S MOVE TO DROP CUPID FROM THEIR LINEUP WAS WITHIN THEIR RIGHTS

Tonight at 10 p.m., Triangle residents will find an array of local network programming to choose from. Will they pick "The Dating Experiment" on ABC? Or a rerun of "Law & Order" on NBC? Perhaps they will decide that what they really want to watch is a rerun of "The Andy Griffith Show" on CBS.

Wait - "The Andy Griffith Show" in primetime?

Local residents flipping the channels might be surprised to see reruns of "The Andy Griffith Show" in lieu of "Cupid" - the show hasn't produced a new episode since the late sixties - but its part of the Capitol Broadcasting Company's latest stance against reality dating shows that turn marriage into a game. Across the nation, WRAL-TV is the only CBS station choosing not to air the show.

Cupid, a show created by "American Idol" judge Simon Cowell, is supposedly about

old-fashioned matchmaking. A woman and her two friends choose ten guys from hundreds to go on dates with her. Once the dating begins the viewing audience will get to send one guy home per week. If the last guy standing proposes and she accepts AND they stay married for one year then they get to share \$1 million.

The Capitol Broadcasting Company owns WRAL-TV, a CBS affiliate, and WRAZ-TV, a Fox affiliate, and they have refused to air programs that turn marriage into a game. They have previously chosen not to air "Who Wants to Marry a Multi-Millionaire?" "Temptation Island" and "Married by America."

The Triangle's NBC and ABC affiliates are both owned by their respective companies, so they will always air whatever NBC and ABC decide to include in their programming. CBS's local ownership gives them the opportunity to make choices, and they are using that privilege wisely by not becoming a corporate clone and airing whatever CBS offers.

Their decision to air "The Andy Griffith Show" in place of "Cupid" will probably not bring them a large audience during the 10 p.m. timeslot, but it has enabled them to get a message across that they will not make a mockery of marriage.

Some local residents have decided to boycott WRAL-TV because of their decision not to air the program. They feel that the station has no right to tell them what to watch. It is not WRAL-TV's job to tell the public what is appropriate or tasteful, but it is their right to choose whether they want to be associated with.

The Capitol Broadcasting Company should to continue eliminating programs from their television stations that compromise their values.

The divorce rate is already incredibly high in this country and television programs like "Married by America" and "Cupid" further illustrate how little seriousness goes into some unions.

Now if WRAL-TV could only get rid of "Big Brother"...

The unsigned editorial that appears above is the opinion of the members of the Technician's editorial board and are the responsibility of the editors in chief.



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A lasting friendship

In a world of change, one thing remains to be a constant; the peculiar relationship between the U.S. and Great Britain.

Two things concerning Iraq seem to occur daily: first, at least one of our soldiers, or one of the British soldiers accompanying America in the occupation is killed from the low-level insurgency that is sweeping parts of the country; secondly, some piece of news is released indicating, if not just slightly, that the Bush Administration and their British allies were less concerned about reviewing



Andrew Dugan
Staff Columnist

all the evidence about the threat of Iraq but were rather hell bent on using the evidence and documents that justified their main arguments (that was WMDs, if you recall) - even if those attestations were bogus.

The American public seems hardly surprised about the first event. Poll after poll reveals that most people believe that, given the nature of Iraq, these sort of tragedies are unavoidable, and in that respect, tolerable.

As for the latter concept, that the Bush Administration might have exaggerated their case for war, Americans are uninterested and even hostile to the notion. Truly, the cynicism that has dominated politics since Watergate has evaporated, that attacks of Sept. 11.

Indeed, many Americans believe that even if our main cause for pre-emption attacking Iraq isn't ever vindicated - most believe it eventually will be - the fact that the Iraqi population was spared from the ruthlessness of Saddam and his two monstrous sons is quite enough to keep them faithful in the war.

I could agree that the end result was desirable, but that is hardly enough to pat ourselves on the back and be done with the whole matter.

The Bush Doctrine, which famously endorses attacking a hostile nation before that nation has the chance to do so, is clearly at risk. While I believe the Bush Doctrine clearly has some logic to it, it cannot be cited to wage wars that are based off speculations and doctored intelligence.

If the concern was freeing the Iraqis, then that should have been the stated goal. But that leads to the inevitable but fair question, "what about all the other enslaved nations of the world?" It has always been a philosophical question if the ends justify the means, but I believe they don't.

Across the Atlantic Ocean, Tony Blair is finding himself in a much more belligerent atmosphere than President

Bush, as the British public has become engulfed with anger that they may have been deceived in order to win mass support for war.

Blair's ratings have fallen in Britain and in continental Europe, diminishing his chances that he may reach his final goal in life - to be the first president of a large and powerful European Union. Some pundits, amused by their cleverness, have laughed that Blair may be the next victim of 'regime change.'

Curiously enough, in the wake of all this, Blair's popularity has risen tremendously in America - where he has become the favored leader of the free world. Even President Bush is second to him.

Blair commanded 83 percent of Americans' respect; Bush's percentage was lower in the latest Pew Research poll. Of course this is of little value to Prime Minister Blair who is liable to fall from the wrath of British voters, and even the love of the American public cannot spare him from such a fate.

What this political oddity helps to underline is the strange relationship that still exists between the United States and her former colonial master, Great Britain.

British leaders always seem to generate a great deal of respect from the American public - Winston Churchill most notably but many others have enjoyed a high level of popularity, like Margaret Thatcher.

The British Royalty, though powerless even in the family's own country, is revered all the more. One only needs to conjure up memories of the seemingly eternal mourning of Princess Di some years ago to prove

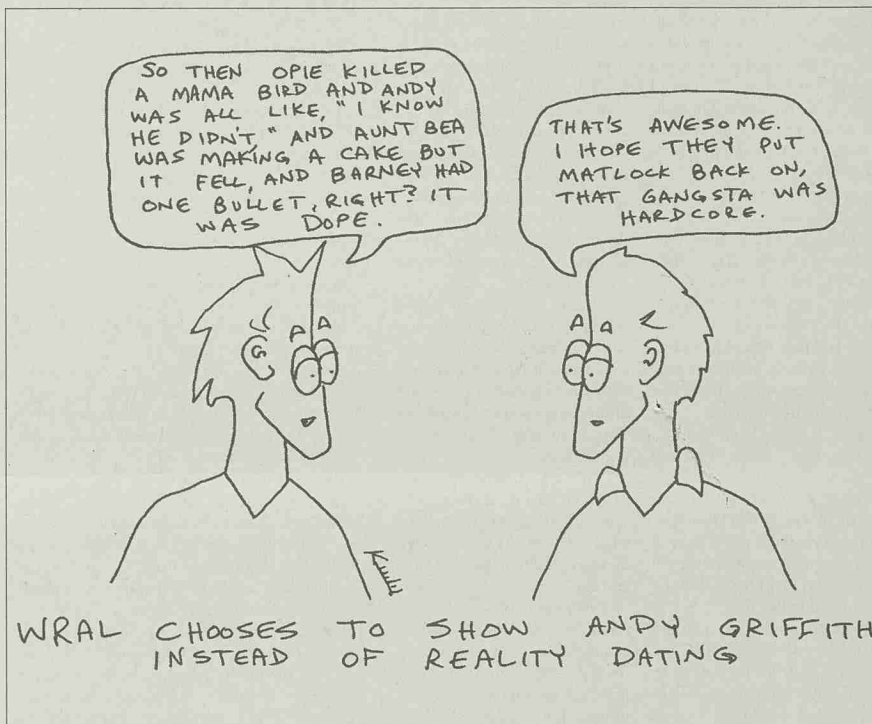
this point.

The British, in return, often feel the same way about American leadership (this presidency is a bit different) and have many times through proved that they are worthy friends of America, like when the Queen's marching band played the American national anthem instead of Britain's after the terrorist attacks two Septembers ago.

Many things in this world are changing, almost too rapidly. Continental Europe, after decades of being obsequious are now openly defying us; China, a country long damned with a fragile economy is growing solidly; terrorism is becoming a global enemy and disease continues to grow in Africa.

I'll leave to the reader to decide which of any of these changes are positive (if any), but perhaps we can take comfort in the only thing besides energy that seems indestructible: the Anglo-American relationship.

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Finding a place to call home

As summer winds down and school creeps closer, many begin thinking of a place to live. But there are a few things they might want to consider first.

Ah, the joys of summer.

For some, it means no school because we are too busy working, swimming, partying with friends and going on vacations. Sure, I still do all of that during the school year too, but with the added annoyance of going to class.

For most of us, it also means moving, which can occur simultaneously with a variety of emotions. The emotions part is primarily a female thing; however, I have seen several males shed a tear or two. Mainly when they are breaking their backs carrying their girlfriends' 30-inch television down three flights of stairs. After all, she should not be expected to do it herself!

Whether you are moving from one dorm room to another or finally into a place by yourself, moving time can be a lot of fun for all involved - even for those who are just helping out with the moving experience.

It provides time with friends, sometimes extra cash when the sofa is tilted the wrong way and if you help me move, a big party afterwards!

It may be hard for "first timers" to find a great place to live in Raleigh. There are so many aspects of a place a person needs to consider before sign-

ing that lease.

I decided this year that I wanted to be on my own, so I had to look for a place that was affordable yet decent to live in (basically without any roaches around). This place had to be pet friendly, because taking my cat away from me is like taking away my computer, which is not pretty.

Since the need to eat comes before the need to park on campus, I needed a place near enough to the Wolfline that I did not have to get up before the sun rose to make it to a bus stop on time.

Some people like to live with others for different reasons. Those folks have to look for a place that is big enough for all that are living there so that they are not walking over each other to get from one room to the next.

Rooms that are relatively similar in size are good to look for, to prevent squabbling over who gets what room. The number of bathrooms can be a deciding factor in a place to live, especially if it is a group of girls or a mixture of girls and boys. For some reason, boys do not worry as much about the number of bathrooms.

I asked a friend of mine that was moving in with a couple of other people what made her want the place they are moving into so much, and she said "party room!" I have to agree, this is an important part of any place you move in to.

Then there are the people that like to live in dorms. I honestly do not understand why,

but that may be because I never had the dorm room experience. Several people helped me out on things to look for when moving into the dorms: definitely need to find a great roommate. Moving into a place not much bigger than a closet means close quarters with someone, and for most people, it is best to already know that person. There are those few that like complete strangers and become best friends with them, but the majority have told me they like to choose their roommate.

Another thing: the location of the dorm is important. If you are big into theatre and most of your classes are in Thompson Theatre, then it is probably best to live in the dorm right beside Thompson. However, if you want to be close to the gym, live in the dorms nearest to it, like Wood Hall. Then, if you like swimming, partying and lots of friend time, University Towers is the best for you.

It does not matter if it is a dorm, an apartment or a house that you choose to live in, just find somewhere that makes you happy. College is much easier if you do not have fights with roommates or have to constantly call the landlord to make repairs on your place.

And if you need help moving, for six bucks an hour I am available!

Heather is now preparing to go the UK. If you have any great packing tips, let her know at hrcutchi@unity.ncsu.edu.



Heather Cutchin
Staff Columnist

TUITION

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the highest levels of financial need and who apply for financial aid by the March 1 priority filing date. Both in-state and out-of-state students benefit from these by an external agency, and only in-state undergraduates are considered for these grants."

Even those on scholarships now worry about future expenses.

Matthew Latrick just finished his freshman year in political science and will be adding a business major to his studies at NCSU. Latrick is from Maryland, and although he was fortunate enough to receive a four-year scholarship, he is concerned about the unexpected expenses that may occur if it takes him longer than four years to complete both degrees.

"If I find a new major, or want to change fields or something, that will take more time. I'm pretty sure I can finish it up in four years," said Latrick.

"But only if my interests don't

change. The tuition discourages students from exploring other fields."

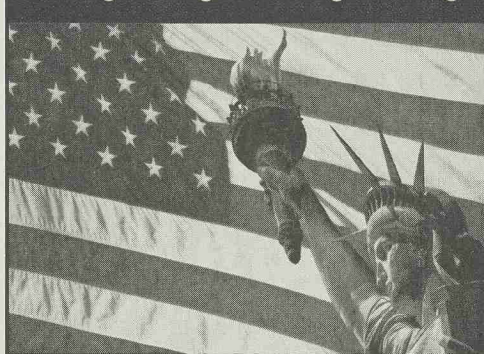
Latrick also believes rising tuition, "makes it really tough to get your friends still in high school to even look at State. We're more expensive than a lot of private schools."

Many argue that the rising price tag for out-of-state students is hurting the diversity of the student body, and lessening the university's chances for national prominence.

On the other side, however, some argue that NCSU must balance the need to provide education for its own citizens, as a land-grant university.

For now, students from other states are coming to NCSU for all major and degree programs, however rising tuition prices may start to make a difference in students choosing between NCSU and less expensive ACC alternatives like Georgia Tech or Clemson.

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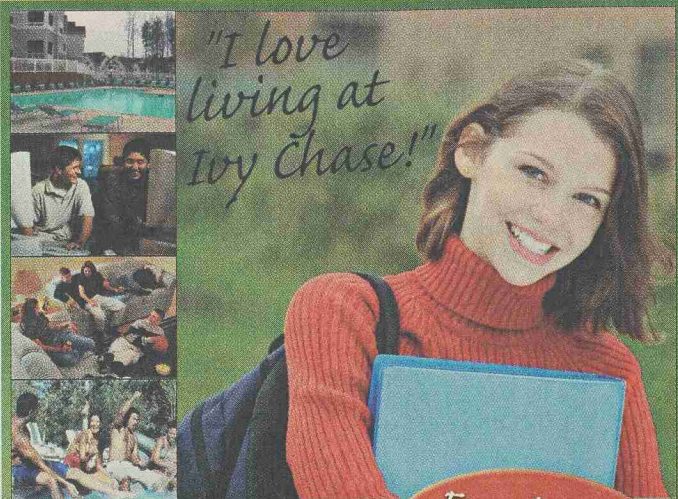
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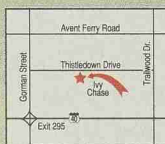
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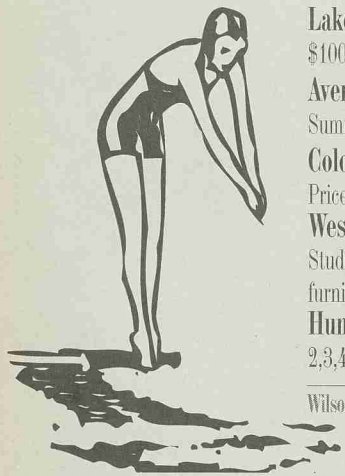
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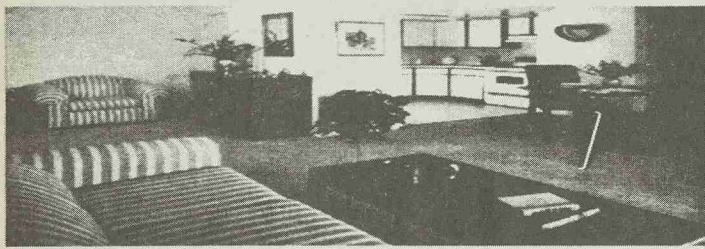
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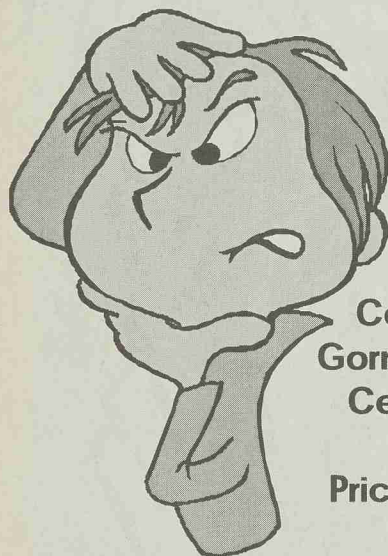
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News

DESIGN

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"Due to the fact that no one would spend money on it to buy better software; we had to go with the basic stuff. When you develop for Palm, its pretty much a monopoly and they control how you can develop on their platform," said Wilson.

"It came down to a difficulty with using barcode scanners. We needed to have some sort

of an interface already set up for us ... We had quite a few design tradeoffs mainly involved in the platform we chose and the integrated development environment," said Wilson, describing the problems as "database limitations."

If Wilson were going to start again to fix the kinks, "We would probably rewrite the whole thing in a better language with a better database."

The students themselves gar-

nered \$6,000 and an additional \$6,000 was presented to NCSU, where funds will go toward an IEEE Computer Science financial aid fund.

Currently, the members are seeking patent protection through the university to determine if investors are interested in the idea, but it's still too soon to tell if you will be getting dieting advice from a Wolfpack invention.

TRUSTEES

continued from page 1

While the numbers presented were not as dire or sharp as predicted, Willis warned "we're not out of this yet," and expected that next year could be worse.

Board member McQueen Campbell brought up his disappointment with the commencement speaker selection, Phil Donahue, for this year's spring graduation.

"This year's spring commencement selection was abnormal," Fox admitted. A proposal to revise the process was among the list of items to be discussed at the meeting.

At the Student Affairs committee meeting, Vice Chancellor

for Student Affairs Tom Stafford forecasted a number of issues that students and the committee, of which Caravano is a member, will face in the coming year.

One of the most immediate and heated could be student fees, which Stafford suggested could increase.

The fees, which are charged to every student, cover a wide range of services and student-centered programs. They are reviewed each year by the Student Senate and presented to the BOT. Stafford predicted that there could be a fairly substantial package, and that students might be seeing an increase.

Stafford also sees other issues on the horizon that include a high demand for football tickets. He saw the possibility of a campout

for the UNC game, along with seeing a contingent of NCSU students protecting the wolves at the new Murphy football complex from getting painted Carolina blue.

Stafford updated the committee on new dormitories that will be completed in the next three years that will boost on campus residential housing to nearly 10,000 beds, with the new Wolf Village and dormitories planned at the former Stroud Center.

Despite the obstacles that could mount and the issues that are sure to arise, Caravano, for one, was energized by the meeting.

"[It was] great to be surrounded by the people that were there and understanding what they contribute to the university," he said.

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Me, myself and time

I have been told (by people qualified to tell such things) that the human body is constantly losing and rebuilding its cells. So thorough is this process, that it is estimated that one's entire cellular composition is completely



Tim Coffield
Staff Columnist

replaced (gradually) every seven years.

When such facts are taken into consideration it becomes clear, or at least reasonable to suggest, that I steadily die and reincarnate myself in seven-year cycles for the duration of my earthly existence. Our lives are not so singular as appearances suggest; we are multitudes and pluralities, reflections of our past selves and suggestions of our future existences. It's kind of like mini-Hinduism, sans the creepy cow-love.

To illustrate, I am clearly not the same Tim who enrolled at N.C. State seven years ago, nor was that Tim the same who was suspended from his middle school seven years previous for repeatedly pinching the (supple!) buttocks of his sturdy history teacher after class.

While this theory seems to somewhat exonerate my current self from the hormonal crimes of the middle school Tim, it does not speak well for my current scholastic qualifications, as it was the *high school* Tim who possessed the requisite resume to garner

acceptance into our venerable bricked institution of higher learning.

Now fully into the fourth reincarnation of Tim, I find myself strapped inescapably to a back row seat on the metaphorical train of time, that age-old (ha!) vehicle of exponential speed with destination, interestingly enough, both absolutely certain and certainly indeterminate. I hurtle, ever faster, towards Tims numbers five, six, seven and so on, all the while straining my neck looking back at the previous Tims. Tims with more hair and less debt.

Indeed, it has become increasingly apparent in the past months that my once-dense head of hair is thinning at an alarming rate, much like Calista Flockhart with a stairmaster and a bottle of prescription-strength laxatives. The dwindling hairs atop my head appear to be

retracting back into my scalp, diving for cover from the Extra-Strength Rogaine and various botanical "hair-growers" I devotedly apply twice daily, morning and night. My renegade follicles leave behind a shiny-white, mole-dotted pate certainly never meant to suffer

"We are multitudes and pluralities, reflections of our past selves and suggestions of our future existences. It's kind of like mini-Hinduism, sans the creepy cow-love."

beneath the direct and hazardous exposure to sunlight as it now does.

This mark of diminishing youth makes for a certain amount of public awkwardness, as Tim number four still vainly (pun?) attempts to cling to the boyish beauty of previous Tims three, two, and one, fearful that his diminishing good looks will make him invisible to women.

Things being as they are, I am exceedingly thankful for my freakish height, which prevents my peers of average stature from noticing my bald embarrassment. Sitting down presents a problem, as it tends to give others an easier glimpse of my hairless peak. For this reason, I choose to stand whenever possible, be it on the bus, in the dining hall or at church.

I suspect my escapee tresses are darting frenetically along some mysterious inter-body highway from my scalp to my back and shoulders, where they re-emerge daily, with inexplicably increased thickness, buoyant volume, and remarkable sheen. The resemblance to my hirsute

father is uncanny - the more we lose up top, the more we gain below. Tim number four is emerging as a browner-haired and more svelte version the current Steve Coffield number eight.

Standing twisted in front of the mirror, eyeballing my freshly-sprouted man-pelt, I am flooded with recollections of my silver-backed patriarch shuffling about my childhood home, clad simply but efficiently in tight white briefs, his own

wooly back and shiny pate shimmering in the incandescent light, his alpha-manliness radiating, daring someone - anyone - to make fun of his rather raw appearance. A truer vision of ultimate manhood incarnate has certainly never existed.

And so it is, I realize, that this fourth Tim is in the process of crossing that slippery bridge from boy to man, from his youthful and hair-ful past to his adult and equally (yet differently) hairy future. Balding, of course, is brought about by high levels of testosterone production, the

supreme chemical of manhood.

The shedding of boyish good looks coincides in Tim number four, as it does in all males (possible exception: Gary Coleman) at some time or another, with increases in maturity and perceived power, traits that women find attractive - often more so than a full head of hair or a clean back.

Trust me, I would know. Just ask my voluptuous new girlfriend, Janet. She teaches history at a local middle school. As a matter of fact, she used to teach a squirmy-fingered kid named Tim.

But that was lifetimes ago.

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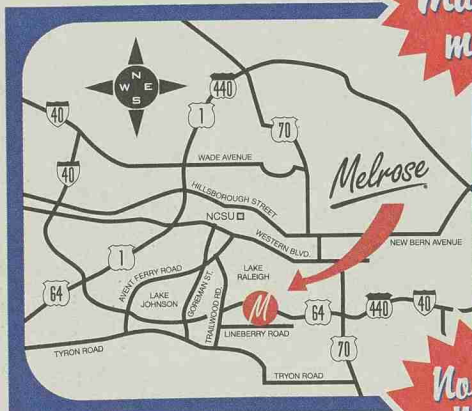
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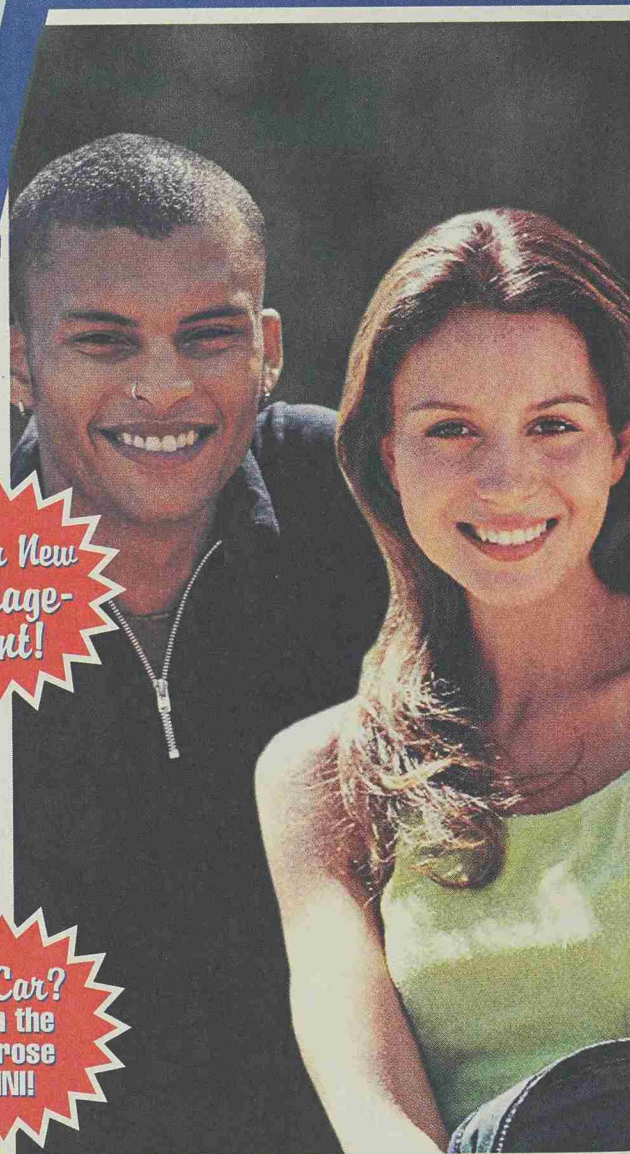
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CARDINALS

continued from page 8

an act? Only the modern-day MLB marketing miracle - the bobblehead doll.

Today's superstar doll would be All-Star shortstop Edgar Rentaria, best known for his World Series-winning hit in 1997 as a member of the Florida Marlins.

Around noon, the outside of Busch looked like a crowded street carnival. The lines for Edgar's bobbling head wrapped and danced around the statue of Cardinal legend Stan Musial as if The Man was a Maypole. They swerved around the statues of other legends -- Bob Gibson, Lou Brock and more. Once

they reached the gates, each fan was given a white box containing the ubiquitous collectable.

I watched the scene with one eye, while looking for a ticket with the other. My dad's prediction of the better ticket market on Sunday was of course not the case. Thus we were forced to deal with a scalper -- \$60 a ticket for lower-level third-base line was what we eventually paid.

Once inside, I was given my very own Edgar bobblehead, and I thought so highly of it, I checked eBay as soon as I got home for the going price (around \$40). As far as the game went, it climaxed in the bottom of the first inning. That's never a good thing.

What was pleasing was seeing

in person my first benches-clearing brawl. Apparently, Padres pitcher Adam Eaton was upset because he didn't get a bobblehead. Either that or he thought Pujols admired his homer the night before a little too much.

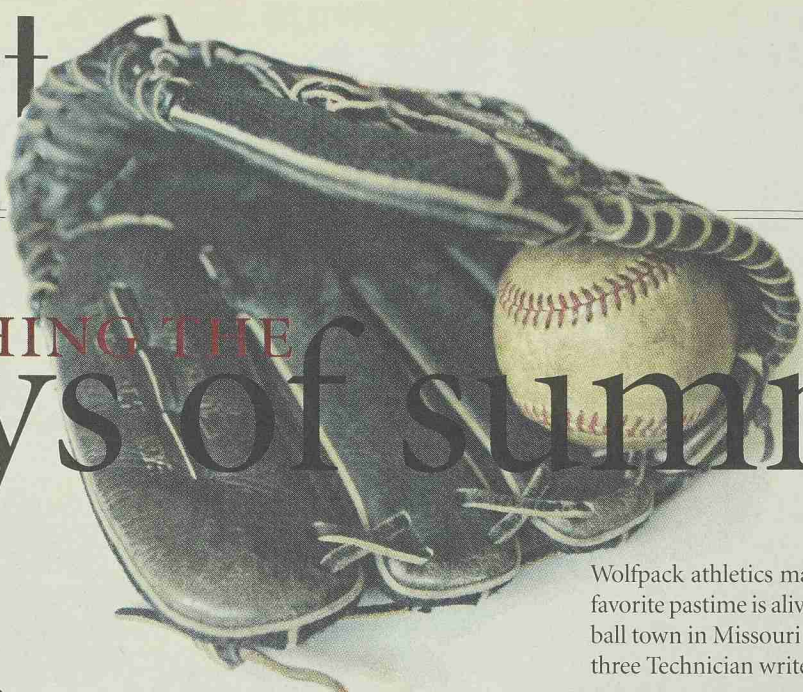
With a 2-1 victory, St. Louis completed the three-game sweep to stay one back of the Houston Astros before the All-Star break.

From bobbleheads to beer to bean balls to bat boys, bad pitching, Bruce Bochy and ballparks, hopefully MLB will one day find its way to North Carolina. In the meantime, notions that it is a dying game ring hollow.

It's definitely alive and well - especially in cities like St. Louis.

Wednesday Sport

WATCHING THE boys of summer



Base brawlin'

Matt Middleton
Sports Editor

ST. LOUIS - I had only been out in the city for 30 minutes or so, but I quickly concluded that I had indeed come to a baseball town.

It was precisely two hours before the first pitch was to be thrown Saturday night in the Gateway City, yet the streets outside the St. Louis Cardinals' Busch Stadium had long been painted Cardinal red. They were in replica jerseys of All-Stars Albert Pujols and Scott Rolen. They wore shirts commemorating Mark McGwire - a player that had played in the town all of four full seasons - and his historical 70-homer season of 1998.

Heck, even the women all wore their choice of red halter or spaghetti-strap tops. The scene made a Carter-Finley Saturday look entirely pedestrian.

Everyone seemed to be in red. No exceptions. No exceptions except myself. Ever the clueless one, my orange-and-blue collared shirt stood out like John Bunting at a body-building contest.

Nevertheless, there I stood in the city where

eight World Champions had been crowned - second most behind the hated Yankees - and couldn't find a single ticket for anything remotely close to face-value for a Saturday night game against the worst team in the National League, the 35-59 San Diego Padres.

"We should spend most of our money today, because the market won't be as competitive for tomorrow's game," my dad boldly predicted.

With a stroke of good luck, we scored a pair of upper-level tickets for less than face from a kind gentleman who was perhaps the only non-scalper selling tickets that day.

Once inside, the first order of business was - naturally - exploring the concessions. Since my last experience in a Major League Baseball ballpark (Yankee Stadium) was extremely sub-par concession-wise, my expectations were a little low. I quickly found out that although Busch was no Yankee Stadium, it still left a little to be desired. It lacked the trademark item that its region is known for, like a crab cake sandwich at Camden Yards or a Veterans Stadium cheesesteak.

After I finally settled on some grossly overpriced nachos, it was game time. The third man



The lower level view of a bench-clearing brawl at Busch Stadium in St. Louis. Staff photo by Matt Middleton

up to bat in the Cardinals lineup was Pujols. I entered the game hypothesizing Pujols might be the best overall player in the entire game and left thinking the exact same thing.

Pujols went 3-for-5 that night and hit the game-winning homer in the bottom of the 11th inning. His batting average leads the entire ma-

jors and his home run (27) and RBI (86) totals are equally impressive.

The next morning, I woke at 10:15 and looked out my window to see the stadium already surrounded by fans. The game started at 1:10.

What in the world could be the cause of such

CARDINALS see page 7

Carolina's other team

Taylor Francis
Staff Writer

ZEBULON - In 1988, the sports movie world was forever changed by a small budget film about a minor league baseball team. As a direct consequence of that movie, "Bull Durham," the Durham Bulls became forever inextricably linked with small-town minor league baseball in the United States and North Carolina. But, in 1991, a new kid came to town and it was known as the Carolina Mudcats.

Despite the discrepancy in name recognition, the Mudcats have had several successful seasons. This year they were Eastern Division champions of the Southern League during the first half of the season. The Mudcats, AA affiliates of the Florida Marlins, also boasted Major League All-Star Dontrelle Willis on their roster at the beginning of the year.

On Monday, I took a trip with some friends to Zebulon to take a look at the lesser known of the Triangle's minor league teams.

The game started at 7:15, and we arrived in the top of the first inning. Mudcats stadium is a 30- to 40-minute drive from Raleigh depending on your speed and traffic. It's easy to find - just drive to the middle of nowhere and look to your right.

Parking was only \$3, which wasn't bad for a group of six people, and it's cheaper than parking for a N.C. State basketball game.

The tickets were probably the best part of the entire trip. For \$7 per person we were able to sit on the front row at field level right behind the visiting team's bullpen pitchers. As if this weren't enough, we all received a one-dollar discount for being college students, and unlike the movie theaters we weren't all required to show valid identification. The only downfall to sitting at field level is that your chance of catching a foul ball becomes essentially zero.

I should point out that while you can sit on the front row for only \$6, there are plenty of good seats available for cheaper if you're that strapped for cash. For \$3.50 (with the college discount) you can sit in the grandstand. And your chances of catching a foul ball up there are insanely higher.

If you still want to sit on the front row, but are just cheap, don't worry; you're taken care

of too. I saw roughly zero ushers the entire time I was at Mudcats Stadium. Not once was my ticket asked for and as far as I could tell no one really cared. So, go ahead, buy the \$3.50 ticket then just stroll right down to field level. San Antonio has a better chance of repeating as NBA Champions than you do of being stopped.

Muddy, the Mudcats' mascot, will provide plenty of between-inning entertainment during the early innings, but that all stops after the fifth. If you get bored while watching the game, you can pay \$1 to find out just how fast your pitching speed is. If you don't want to do that, there's always walking or eating. The game is clearly the central focus for the Mudcats. So, once your satisfied that you're not the next Randy Johnson, it's back to providing your own entertainment.

One negative about the trip is the food. Concessions are like concessions everywhere else - high on price and low on taste.

A hot dog will set you back \$2.25 or \$2.75 if you add chili or cheese. A 24 oz. beer is \$4. If you're in the mood for something different they do have Dippin' Dots (\$3 in a bowl, \$5 in a souvenir mini batting helmet), pizza and chicken nuggets. You can get five chicken nuggets and a drink for \$6.50. Last time I checked, five chicken nuggets made the 99-cent menu at Wendy's.

Another word of warning - be prepared to see more little people than Dorothy in Munchkinland. Of a crowd I would estimate at 1,000 people, at least half were under the age of 10. They are capable of providing some entertainment when they try to insult opposing players, but hearing "Go Mudcats!" after a groundout to second can get old pretty fast.

Overall, if you're bored in Raleigh going to a game isn't a bad way to spend an evening.

The quality of play was surprisingly good and can keep you interested in the game, which is important since there's only so many times you can test your pitching speed before your arm gets tired.

If you want to watch a quality baseball game without spending a lot of money, then you'll have a good time. If you're looking for a carnival with a baseball game in the background - well, it's Mudcats Stadium, not Turner Field.

'Bull Durham' in real time

Austin Johnson
Staff Writer

DURHAM - Tuesday night I went to go see the Durham Bulls play the Buffalo Bisons in a AAA International League showdown. It's not exactly Yanks-Sox at Fenway, but for 6 bucks a ticket you can't really complain that much.

The Bulls won the International League championship last year, which I guess means the organization has two really good AAA teams - the Bulls and their major league affiliate Tampa Bay Devil Rays. I looked into it, and it turns out the Devil Rays have finished in last place in their division every year since they started playing in 1998.

The Durham Athletic Park where the Bulls play is one of the nicer minor league stadiums I've ever seen, recently expanding to a 10,000 seat facility.

The first thing I did when I walked in was check out the souvenir shop shamelessly located directly in front of the gate. My biggest problem with the shop - they don't sell "Bull Durham" anywhere.

How can you not sell this movie if you're the Durham Bulls?

I would say the Durham Bulls are the world's most recognizable minor league team, but they don't sell the movie that made them famous anywhere in their ballpark.

The rest of the concourse is what you would expect at any ballpark. Lots of variety in greasy food, some ice cream stands, and plenty of beer at high but not outrageous prices. The field itself is nice, with its "Blue Monster" in left field and the infamous bull sitting on top of it. If a player ever hits the bull, a feat that I have yet to see, someone in the crowd wins a steak. The bull also blows smoke out of its nostrils if someone hits a home run, which is a nice little touch.

I'm a pretty big baseball fan, so once the game itself started I actually sat down in my seat and paid attention to the game. I'm one of the 10 people under the age of 50 that keeps score on a regular basis, to give you an idea of just how big a baseball nerd I am.

Brian Tallet, the starting pitcher for Buffalo looked like he had major league potential. He's a southpaw that was consistently throwing the fastball in the 90 mph range

with a good sink to it, and his slider was good enough to keep hitters off balance. He got rattled for one inning and gave up three runs on a couple of hits but other than that he looked solid. During the mound visit that inning I couldn't resist using the "candlesticks make a nice wedding gift" line. The best looking player for the Bulls was their catcher, Pete LaForest. He's Canadian, but he's also a decent hitting pitcher so he'll probably end up playing in Tampa Bay before the season is over.

Even if you're not exactly a baseball fan, there is plenty of stuff between innings to keep you entertained. This year the Bulls even have a guy that "hosts" the between-innings contests and giveaways.

I kept waiting for the team mascot, Wool E. Bull, to get Randall Simoned when he walked by the third-base dugout, but no such luck. My two favorite between-inning events of the night had to be the sumo wrestling thing (never gets old to me) and the mascot driving his mini race car around the stadium throwing things into the crowd (I've always kinda wanted to drive that thing, just because).

By about the sixth inning I was getting annoyed by a group of people about my age sitting behind me. I had ignored them most of the night - since I have a younger brother my tolerance level for really annoying people is pretty high. But there are only so many times you can hear someone point out that "it's hot" before you want to turn around and scream "You've said that 100 times since I got here will you please shut the hell up." The kicker had to be when one of the girls in the group asked if there was a halftime. About an inning later one of them mentioned that they all go to Carolina and the world made sense again. The group left after seven innings because they were afraid they might miss part of the Real World if they didn't leave then - you can't make these kinds of stereotypes up people.

Overall it was a nice night at the ballpark. The Bulls ended up winning by a 4-0 score, and I got a kick out of seeing how many times I could quote Bull Durham during the course of the evening. Minor league baseball in Durham offers a lot to both the die-hard baseball fanatic and the casual or even non-fan of the sport.

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