

TECHNICIAN

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NOVEMBER
4
2003

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Raleigh, North Carolina

Wake
County
run-off
polls open

Students in the 01-23 precinct can vote in Witherspoon Student Center.

Anna Edens
Senior Staff Reporter

Run-off elections in Wake County take place today from 6:30 a.m. until 7:30 p.m.

The Witherspoon Student Center polling site will be open for students who live in the 01-23 precinct and registered to vote within 30 days prior to the election.

The race in Wake County City Council District (D) is between Thomas Crowder and the incumbent Benson Kirkman to finish the four-way race from Oct. 7 in which no candidate received over 50 percent of the vote.

October's ballot for city council featured both Crowder and Kirkman along with Jack Alphin and Zack Medford, an N.C. State junior in business.

Medford finished fourth in the race with 14.11 percent of the vote, while Kirkman received 32.33 percent, Crowder 31.41 percent and Alphin 22.01 percent.

Medford ran on a platform highlighting student issues such as fighting the Nuisance Party Ordinance, improving Hillsborough Street and enforcing student rights in the apartment and home markets in Raleigh.

Turnout for run-off elections varies by year, and the Wake County Board of Elections declined to comment specifically on turnout projections for this year.

However, Medford, who had endorsed

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A matter of choice,
not race say students

The majority of North Hall's residents are black, as opposed to the usual white majority in other on-campus dorms.

Shannon Holder
Staff Reporter

Tiffany Kay enjoys her life at North Residence Hall. A junior in communications, with a minor in law and justice, she has many of her classes across the street in Tompkins, Winston and Caldwell. When she decided what dorm she wanted to live in, North was the natural choice.

"Personally, I chose to live in North Hall because of the living accommodations it has to offer," Kay said. "Living in North to me is the closest thing on campus currently to living in an apartment in many ways."

When Kay, who is black, decided to move to North, race was never a factor in her decision, but it may be for some residents of the Hillsborough Street dorm.

For over a decade, North Residence Hall has housed a higher percentage of black students than any other dorm on campus.

According to Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Tim Luckadoo, 77 percent of North Hall's residents are black, 21 percent are Caucasian and 2 percent are another race.

Compare that to other campus residence halls, which average 74 percent Caucasian residents, 18 percent black and 8 percent of another race.

"North is a very good place, a place where there is a strong sense of com-



RAY BLACK III/TECHNICIAN

Sophomores Marie Johnson, left, in criminology, and Crystal Sermons, in communications and Spanish, both agree that the racial composition of North Hall is changing. Johnson said, "it's becoming more balanced." Sermons agreed, saying "it was pretty much a black dorm last year, but now that's changing."

munity," Luckadoo said. "We have very few maintenance problems there; we have very few disciplinary problems there."

When Luckadoo arrived at NCSU 11 years ago, he questioned why there was such a high percentage of a minority at one dorm and not the other dorms. He decided to run a focus group.

"Students kept saying that they liked the bigger rooms, the location or that their friends lived there. They liked the computer lab on the first floor," Luckadoo said. "It really didn't tell us anything sociological."

Lamar Simpson, a junior in computer engineering, came to North because it was close to his classes.

"I like it here because there is lots of beautiful scenery, for example, the girls around," Simpson said jokingly. "I like the fact that people are nice to you even if they don't know you, which is a big change from where I am from."

Luckadoo said the high percentage might come from talking with friends.

"I think the main reason why people choose a dorm is word of mouth," he said, adding that location plays an

important role.

Luckadoo and those that stay in North said the lack of diversity is not an issue.

"Obviously, the only disadvantage I could see is if it gets to the point where people who are not the majority race feel uncomfortable," Luckadoo said. "We have not had that problem at North Hall."

Some residents acknowledge the lack of diversity. "I think there could be more diversity. There is some here,

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N.C. State hosts law schools

Students gathered at Talley Student Center Monday to learn more about law schools and the application process.

Jodi Swicegood
Staff Reporter

The second annual Law School Fair held yesterday in Talley Student Center attracted more than 50 schools from across the nation, ranging from Wake Forest University to Whittier Law School in California. Given the opportunity to explore several law schools, students talked with representatives and discussed the application process.

Colleen McKeone, a representative for Widener University School of Law in Wilmington, Del. and Harrisburg, Pa., commented about the purpose of coming to Law School Day at N.C. State.

"We certainly hope to inform students of what Widener has to offer to them and answer any questions they might have," McKeone said.

"It's really good to talk to the students, face-to-face. If they are applying to a professional school, they want to go about it in a professional manner," she said.

Sharon Booker, a representative with Florida State University in Tallahassee, Fla., talked about Florida State's mission for attending the fair.

"Our purpose for coming is trying to find competitive applicants for our law school,"



ROB BRADLEY/TECHNICIAN

B.J. Mosely and Geneva Melissa Williamson listen to a representative of Howard Law School at the law school fair on Monday. Mosely said he wanted to go to law school "to give back and help others less fortunate...who can't afford the best legal council."

Booker said.

Booker commented that approximately 80 percent of the students she had spoken to were juniors and seniors, with the rest being underclassmen.

Booker then offered advice to freshmen and sophomores interested in law school.

"Start early, do your research early because you want to be in a position where you can apply early," she said.

Ally Amavisca, a senior in marine and coastal resources, said that her purpose for attending Law School Day was to gain information on different law schools that she was interested in as well as talk to representatives.

After speaking with Kott, Amavisca talked about some of the things Kott told her.

"They [Tulane] would look at

the whole person, not just one aspect of you."

Amavisca is also interested in schools in Maryland and Vermont, as well as William and Mary.

Tony Pease, sophomore in mechanical engineering, spoke with representatives from Wake Forest and UNC-Chapel Hill.

"I would definitely want to stay in North Carolina. I'm an out-of-state student and would like to pay in-state tuition rather than out-of-state rates," Pease said.

Pease also commented on his purpose for attending Law School Day.

"I wanted to see how the transition is, the criteria for acceptance and what other things [clubs] I can do to make my application better," Pease said.

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Campus checkpoint
arrest ends in death

An on-campus checkpoint produces an arrest, but an abnormal occurrence leaves Campus Police shaken and puzzled.

Carie Windham
Staff Reporter

A 19-year-old Raleigh man died Sunday after being arrested and detained by Campus Police during a routine vehicle checkpoint, according to Campus Police.

Brandon Barnett 4 of 2247 Rumson Rd. was in the custody of Campus Police officers when they said he suddenly appeared to be having convulsions or a seizure. He was quickly transported to a nearby EMS station, where he received immediate treatment and transport to Rex Hospital. He was pronounced dead at Rex Hospital. Cause of death has not yet been determined.

At a press conference on Monday, Campus Police Chief Tom Younce called the incident "high-

ly unusual" and said nothing like this had ever occurred during his three years at N.C. State.

According to Younce, Barnett was driving a 2003 Hyundai when he was stopped at a routine license checkpoint on Varsity Drive, near the McKimmon Center. When Barnett failed to produce a license or show any other identification, officers ran a driver's license check that revealed he was driving with a

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insidetechnician



sports

After 10 straight games, State is the last ACC team to enjoy a week off. The Pack will face off against Florida State on Nov. 15

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weather



81°/65°

tomorrow



80°/60°

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Vaulting to new heights



RAY BLACK III/TECHNICIAN

Sophomore pole vaulter Teresa Reed looks to work out the kinks in her technique during an off-season practice session Monday afternoon.

Very important!!
Please Remember!
Tuesday Nov. 4th!

Vote For Kirkman
Raleigh City Council

Benson Kirkman is supported and endorsed by Zack Medford

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Nearby plasma donation clinic sees few students

Biomat USA, Inc. encourages N.C. State students to consider donating plasma for various reasons, including pay.

Brenda Lawrence
Guest Reporter

Business is brisk at Biomat USA, Inc., the plasma clinic located across from N.C. State's landmark Bell Tower where cars jockey for limited parking spaces. People are milling around outside, smoking cigarettes and chatting. A student strolls past the clinic, heading home from classes.

Inside, the waiting room is full of people, most appearing to be in their mid-20s to early 30s, patiently waiting their turn to donate their blood plasma.

Plasma is the blood's "transportation system." A clear, straw-colored liquid, it carries the red and white blood cells, platelets and other materials through the body. After collection, the plasma is frozen and sent to a factory where it is processed (fractionated), separated into components and made into life-saving drugs. Plasma can be frozen up to 10 years.

Craig Byrum, 35, a construction worker of Roanoke Rapids, is waiting outside the clinic to donate. Byrum has one very special reason for donating plasma twice a week at the clinic: his 9-year-old daughter. She had to have heart surgery at six weeks old and again at 6-years-old, and both times, she needed plasma. Byrum gives the money he receives for his blood to his daughter.

"She's God's angel; she's a miracle child," Byrum said about how she survived the two surgeries performed at ECU Children's Hospital. "They have a picture of her heart in all the medical books," he said, acknowledging how rare her heart condition is. "She's doing great now, except that she had a stroke that affected one side of her body, and she'll need another operation when

she's 16."

At Biomat, the intake process starts at the front desk with Patrick Granger. Granger has developed a rapport with many of the repeat customers, and his demeanor seems to put newcomers and others at ease.

Customers sign in, then have a seat and wait to be called for a brief physical exam and screening; donors are required by the Food and Drug Administration to have a physical before donating. A medical history is also taken and tests, including a urinalysis, are given for syphilis, hepatitis, HIV, plasma protein and hematocrit levels. Donors are also screened for drugs.

Granger explains that once accepted in the program, donors are constantly reminded to drink ample amounts of fluids and to eat small, low-fat meals before and after donating. "You can get light-headed and pass out if you haven't eaten," he said.

According to Granger, the clinic sees an average of 60-70 people a week, with slightly more males than females. He estimates that roughly 20 percent are college students.

Blood plasma is collected using a fully automated process called plasmapheresis. A needle is placed in the vein of the donor's arm and a machine collects the plasma and returns the other parts of the blood to the donor. The amount of blood involved varies from 705 ml for a person in the 110 to 149 pound range to 900 ml for someone 175 pounds and up. "When the same site is used over and over, it calluses up with scar tissue," Granger said.

Donors can make up to \$165 a month for their plasma.

Facility Manager, Jeff Hardin, explains it this way: "You can donate up to two times every seven days. Compensation is \$20 for the first visit, \$25 for the second visit, and thereafter, \$15 and \$25, respectively, per visit." The second visit pays more to encourage patrons to return, since the clinic must have two negative test results before it can use the

blood plasma.

Hardin said he has had customers who have donated twice a week for as many as 10 years and that customers range in age from 18-69.

"Most people donate for the money," Hardin said.

There are over 400 for-profit plasma collection centers in the United States, making it the largest supplier of blood plasma products in the world. Because the body replenishes plasma more quickly than whole blood, plasma donations can be made twice weekly. Whole blood can be donated only about once every two months.

Hardin said he'd like to have more students donate and recently advertised in local newspapers. "Students seem to be put off by the time it takes to donate," Hardin said it usually takes a minimum of three hours for the first donation and anywhere from one-and-a-half to two-hours for subsequent donations, although "once a routine is established, visits can go much more quickly."

"Most students could use some extra money to pay bills and our convenient location is easy access for them; they can walk to our facility," Hardin said.

Blair Lake, 39, of Raleigh, has been coming twice a week for six months. "I do it for the money," she said. When asked why she thought more students didn't donate, she said, "I think they're scared."

James Julian, 33, of Houston, Texas, said he, too, does it for the money, and for the people who need plasma. "I've been coming twice a week for about three months."

"The only requirements are that you be in good health, 18 or older, weigh at least 110 pounds, and have valid identification and a permanent address," Julian explained. The clinic also disqualifies homosexual men, anyone infected with HIV or Hepatitis B, anyone who has sex for pay, hemophiliacs, alcoholics, drug users and people from certain African countries.

NORTH

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but very little," Simpson, who is black, said.

The black majority in North Hall was never planned, but residents are happy with their living situation.

"What tends to matter more is who your roommate is, not what race is predominant," Luckadoo said.

Students who live in North Hall, or any other dorm, have a high return rate for the following year, which University Housing uses as an indicator of happiness with the dorms. Luckadoo stated that return rates are more than 60 percent, higher than most universities.

Though having a black majority in a dorm is an abnormality in University Housing,



Jeremy Schmid, a sophomore in environmental technology, doesn't see much racial diversity in North Hall. "I'm one of the few white people in North Hall," Schmid said.

race seems to have little to do with why students decide to live there.

"You can walk down the hall and talk to people, or go to your room for some privacy," Luckadoo said.

Privacy is important to students. As resident Kay put it, "I enjoy the privacy and the fact that I have my own bathroom, which I only have to share with one other person as opposed to approximately 20 other girls."

Freezing time opens doors

Nobel prize winner speaks on campus about "freezing time" to students and faculty.

T. Amarasiriwardena
Staff Writer

"Freezing time" sounds like the stuff of science fiction, but not in Nobel Laureate Ahmed H. Zewali's world.

The Riddick Lab auditorium was packed Friday with faculty and students, many filling the aisles and leaning on the walls to hear CalTech professor Zewali, who holds a doctorate in chemistry, speak about the "Miracles and Mysteries of Time."

Zewali, awarded the 1999 Nobel Prize in chemistry, spoke of his research, effectively dissecting time to the 0.00000000000001 seconds, opening the door to science to further discoveries.

Dropping numerous humorous asides along his speech, Zewali, a native of Egypt, explained his work by looking at a phenomena that had scientists perplexed in the 1800s. How, they asked, did a cat, dropped upside down always land on its feet? Eliciting laughs, he

said that the phenomena, to them, was a gross "violation of Newtonian physics."

Eventually a French scientist figured out the question that had miffing scientists centuries prior. In 1894, Etienne-Jules Marey, devised a high-speed camera - recording 60 distinct images a second and thus "freezing time."

With his camera, Marey dropped a cat upside down and saw how it wriggled and righted itself up before landing on the ground within a second.

From that point onwards, with the high-speed camera as a tool, scientists were able to dissect and break time into manageable periods where further analysis could be made. What was once missed by the eye was now within sight.

Zewali's research produced similar effects on contemporary science.

Previously, at the atomic and molecular level, one "might know the initial state and the final state, but nothing in between," Zewali said.

Through Zewali's laser system, he was able to bring the precision of science down to femtoseconds. If one could read one word per femtosec-

ond, and the average book has some 50,000 words, it would take approximately 645 D.H. Hill Libraries to have enough books to read in one second.

Cutting time to such a small period is more than a novelty. "When I started out, you could just say [a particular discovery] was just 'interesting.' Now you need to solve the energy crisis and cure cancer or something."

By being able to slice time into periods as short as a femtosecond, chemists and physicists were able to answer questions that had previously eluded them in years past.

It opened so many doors that, at Caltech, of the 1,000 graduate students there, 100 are associated with Zewali's burgeoning field of femto-chemistry science.

Based on Zewali's work, scientists have learned that the DNA structure indeed is capable of transmitting a current, like a wire, along with systems for more precise electronic manufacturing.

With every advance in science and measurement of time, Zewali acknowledges that his work will become old. "Time is going to be shorter as science goes on," Zewali said.

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suspended license.

A subsequent search revealed an outstanding warrant with Wake County for failure to appear in court for a Chapter 90 drug violation.

Officers placed Barnett under arrest, handcuffed him and detained him in the backseat of a Campus Police vehicle to await transport to the Wake County Jail. He began convulsing while handcuffed in the back of the car.

The arresting officer immediately transported Barnett to Wake County Emergency Services Station 8, across the street from the site of the arrest. There, paramedics administered emergency treatment and transported Barnett to Rex Hospital where he was pronounced dead.

Younce said Barnett was under constant observation while detained and that no arresting officers had witnessed any signs

of sickness.

"At one point one of the officers asked him if he was OK and he said yes," Younce said on Monday. "When they turned back around, that's when he appeared to have some kind of convulsions or seizures."

Younce said that Barnett's sweating had caught the officer's attention, but during arrests sweating is sometimes not unusual.

"He was compliant during the entire incident and did not resist," Younce said. "There was no force used by the officers other than putting handcuffs in him."

As standard procedure, Younce has asked the State Bureau of Investigation to conduct an investigation of the incident. Until the investigation is over or word is received from investigators, the arresting officer, whose name has not been released, is on administrative duties.

Younce said it's standard procedure to take officers out of the field so they will be available for interviews and so they will have time to recover emotionally.

Younce said the arresting officer was shaken after the incident.

"This is not something officers deal with on a day-to-day basis," he said.

Barnett's vehicle was searched and secured at the scene of the arrest and is still in Campus Police custody. Younce said controlled substances were found in the vehicle, but a positive identification is still awaiting test results.

Barnett's family was notified of his condition while in transport to Rex Hospital. They were later notified of his death. He had no affiliation with N.C. State.

Campus Police made two arrests Sunday night at the Varsity Drive checkpoint for driving with revoked licenses and gave three verbal warnings for expired registrations. Officers at the checkpoint were checking driver's licenses after a series of automobile break-ins in the area.

Younce said that vehicle checkpoints have become standard practice since Sept. 11 as a way to control and monitor who enters and leaves campus.

commitment to attend a meeting with Medford and Mayor Charles Meeker to work out a solution to the Nuisance Party Ordinance problems.

"We really can't just wait until the next election for our views to be recognized by the council," Medford said. "We need to work together to elect a candidate who will appreciate our votes."

POLLS

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Benson Kirkman, said, "In the October election many people came to vote just for mayor; if those 900 students [who voted for Medford in October] vote tomorrow, we'll have a huge impact on the election."

Medford came out in support of Kirkman last week, citing his

Diversions spins it up with new music reviews

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LAW

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Ayo Adeyeye, a freshman in English and literature, also visited the career fair, and spoke about the booths he visited such as Cornell Law School and Chapel Hill.

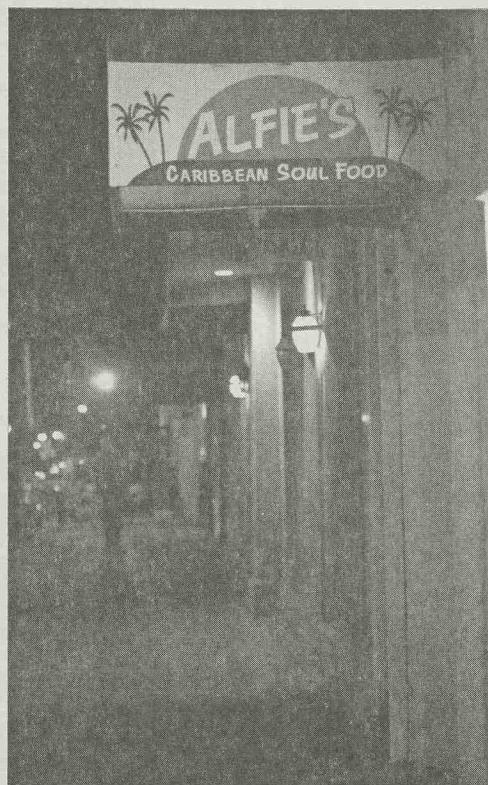
Adeyeye then commented on why he was interested in law school and the advantage he had by visiting Law School Day as a freshman.

"I feel the more prestigious the law school that you attend, the better your chances are of having a successful career," he said.

"Because I am a freshman, I have adequate time to prepare for what they're [law schools] looking for," Adeyeye said.

DINING

Bringing island taste to the mainland



Alfie's Caribbean Soul Food serves authentic island flavor right on Hillsborough Street.

Ana Pardo
Staff Writer

Alfie's inconspicuous entrance (next to Shanghai Express) often escapes the notice of the regular Hillsborough Street pedestrian. However, anyone in the mood for traditional "soul

Located on Hillsborough Street, Alfie's Caribbean and Soul Food is one place you'll want to look for when you're in the mood for something different and delicious.

food" or delicious, healthy vegetarian eats should definitely pay these folks a visit. The atmosphere is very relaxed, with an island feel cre-

ated by dark wooden panels on white walls, ceiling fans, well-placed plants and posters of the Caribbean Islands. The staff is dedicated to making customers feel welcome, and the service is great. Served cafeteria-style, the food offers plenty of entrees, sides and desserts to choose from.

The appetizers alone are a good introduction to traditional Caribbean food. Coco Bread is a dense yeast bread made with cocoa for a delicately sweet flavor. Plantains are the equivalent of huge bananas, and they are served sliced and sautéed, Caribbean-style. The most delicious appetizer I've had yet at Alfie's has to be the Jamaican Patty. Similar to a meat pie,

this dish features a flaky pastry crust enveloping spicy ground beef, and it's phenomenal. Ever-conscious of the vegetarian customer, Alfie's also serves Vegetable Patties in the same tasty crust.

Jerk Chicken is probably the first thing that comes to mind when thinking about the food of the Caribbean, and Alfie's corners the market on this delicious dish. Cooked to fall-off-the-bone tenderness in a slightly spicy jerk sauce, Jerk Chicken goes well with the traditional side of rice and peas or rice and greens. They don't skimp on the portions either - expect to have difficulty eating all of your meal. Other savory meat entrees include Brown Chicken Stew, Oxtail Stew, Curried Chicken and Curried Goat (bet you've never had that before!). Alfie's cooks all the meat entrees bone-in, which adds to their flavor.

Notable and very tasty vegetarian dishes include Candied Yams, Banana Fritters and Curried Chana (a close relative of the chickpea.) In an effort to bring more health-conscious food to Hillsborough Street, Alfie's even offers vegan desserts. The carrot cake is the most mouth-watering of them all.

My latest favorite of the vegetarian dishes is Ital Stew - a simple stew from the Rastafarian tradition, incorporating cabbage, greens, corn, red beans, onions, tomatoes and chickpeas. The soup includes no spices, but is surprisingly savory, due to the mingling of the vegetables' natural flavors.

If in doubt, go try it for yourself - I believe you'll be pleasantly surprised.



PHOTOS BY PETE ELLIS/TECHNICIAN



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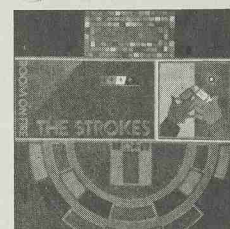
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THE MUSIC BIN



The Strokes

★★★
Room on Fire

Thankfully, The Strokes debut album, "Is This It," was not it for this New York based garage-rock quintet. Two years after they found their way in to the modern music scene, The Strokes have returned with their sophomore release, "Room on Fire."

With "Is This It," The Strokes rang in a new era of music - or rather, they introduced the general public to a genre of rock that had been thriving in the New York underground within bands such as Longwave, Interpol, The Rapture, The Walkmen and Radio 4. By keeping the dirty guitar melodies, hollow bass and drum licks that were prominent on its precursor, "Room on Fire" does not stray very far from the beaten path that the band created.

Normally, a band's sophomore release is expected to straight-up suck. The band will make a strong debut with the songs that they had rehearsed countless times and toured with for years before signing. But then, when the time comes to release a follow-up to the successful debut, the result turns out to be a complete let-down, as it's lacking the predecessor's strong points. Well, leave it to The Strokes to figure out that by sticking to the formula that worked on the first album, they could recreate success on their second.

One common trait of garage-rock in which The Strokes excels is their lack of,

or actually abundance of, caring. For a band that comes across as not caring about commerciality or the fame that comes with it, they certainly do appear to care a lot about not caring. Singer-songwriter Julian Casablancas portrays this flawlessly in the lines "I wanna be forgotten / And I don't wanna be reminded" from the opening track "What Ever Happened?" Any sentiment meaning otherwise is an act on their part, but it definitely makes the album what it is, for anything else would just not be The Strokes.

Though The Strokes mainly stick to the formula created on their debut, at some points they stray. Missing are the catchy pop tracks that "Is This It" offered, the ones that hung in your head for days at a time. Memorable songs such as "Take It or Leave It" and "Last Night" have been replaced by less ambitious tracks like the Cars-esque "12:51," which sounds as if its poppy trails are provided by an '80s keyboard; however, impressively, there were no keyboards used in the song or on the album, but rather the synthesized sounds are provided by guitar.

Standout tracks "Automatic Stop" and "Under Control" provide the listener with something a little different than what one would normally expect from a cookie-cutter follow-up album. Both of the songs take on a reggae feel as the band displays their Bob Marley influence. Yet while "Stop" travels down the ska side of the reggae tracks, "Control" sticks to the traditional droned grooves with love-inspired lyrics.

"Room on Fire" is what it is - a Strokes album. You get what you pay for with subtle difference here and there. Had someone told me two years ago that The Strokes sophomore release would not be a collection of "Last Night" variations, I probably would have laughed in their face - pleasingly, it's not.

- Jake Seaton

T.V.



24
★★★★★
FOX, Tuesdays at 9 p.m.

It's going to be another long day for Jack Bauer.

Yet another season of 24 began last week. The real time show follows the day's events of CTU agent Bauer.

Throughout the commercial-free premiere, we find Bauer three years later watching a suspect he put in prison kill his lawyer with a gold fountain pen.

For the man that fended off the assassination of the presidential hopeful, saved LA and the southwest US from a nuclear bomb, he now faces an even greater challenge in the threat of bioterrorism in the US.

As the season progresses, we are sure to be witness to the many twists and turns the show has become known for.

The real time aspect of the show continues its great pattern of keeping us on the edge of our seats and wondering what next could Jack Bauer possibly face in the span of 24 hours. However, the incredulous comes in Bauer's daughter, Kim, now a CTU agent with her own clearance level, who always seems to find herself in her own world of mortal peril.

Stay tuned for a season filled of suspense, thrills, and action. Pay attention to Palmer's health issues as they could lead to something more. Watch how Bauer handles his heroin addiction, and as always count the number of times Kim manages to get herself into trouble.

-Jessica Gluck



Aesop Rock

★★★
Bazooka Tooth

I knew that anything Ian Bavitz, aka Aesop Rock, put out after his 2001 masterpiece "Labor Days" would fall short of the previous album's all-around amazing quality. But his new LP, "Bazooka Tooth," can't even hold a torch to his earlier works.

There are still quite a few good tracks on this album, but many of the songs are repetitive and too dissonant. This might be due to Aesop's decision to produce most of the album himself, having dismissed former producer Blockhead, who was responsible for the brilliant sound of "Labor Days."

My initial reaction after first listening to "Bazooka Tooth" was one of disappointment. How could such a musically talented, lyrical genius go from "Labor Days" to this? A few of the songs reminded me of previous efforts, but generally the album seemed hit or miss. After a few more listens, I got a better feel for the album, and while it does seem to flow better after having experienced it a few times, it's still a bit of a letdown.

Aesop's signature fast-paced rhymes are as much of a presence on this record as before, and if you like Aesop Rock solely for his poetic charm, you won't be disappointed.

Lines like "he could talk his way out of a sunburn and be home in time for dinner" and "I could kill a cockroach with only wallabies and rug burns" reaffirm Aesop's penchant for bizarre lyrics, and set him apart from other mainstream hip-hop artists. However, the lack of musical accompaniment (be it hip-hop beats or jazzy sounds) on many of the songs causes the album to fail where past productions succeeded. Several of the songs end with odd samples, which sometimes come in the form of mini-songs, and although some are amusing, they also tend to detract from the album as a whole, causing more dissonance than flow.

Tracks such as "NY Electric," which has a great combination of Egyptian synth sounds mixed with a sexy saxophone, "Super Fluke," "Frijoles" and "Cook It Up" stand out as well-produced attempts (interestingly enough, these first three were produced by Aesop himself, the fourth by Blockhead).

Unfortunately, the rest of the album cannot live up to these standards. Particularly annoying are "No Jumper Cables," "Limelighter" and "Freeze," all of which resonate with either annoying distortions that interrupt the track or repetitive, droning lyrics - or both.

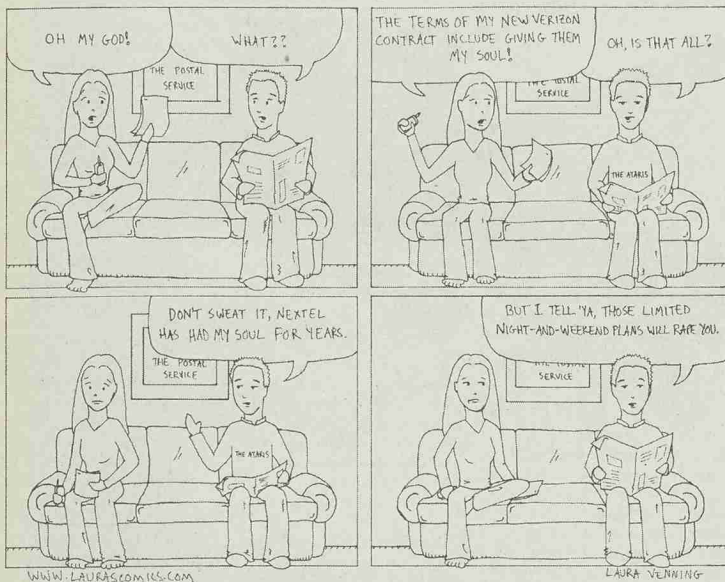
Taken as a whole, "Bazooka Tooth" is nothing worth stepping over your grandmother to run to the store to buy. Many friends have purchased this CD, and while they typically fall in the camp of either loving or loathing it, one thing is clear: Aesop Rock has had two years since "Labor Days" to put something decent together, and this record, while still good, falls short of expectations.

- Chris Skull

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ON CANDYSTRIPE LEGS the spiderman comes
Softly through the shadow of the evening sun
Stealing past the windows of the blissfully dead

Looking for the victim shivering in bed

Searching out fear in the gathering gloom and

SUDDENLY!

A movement in the corner of the room!
And there is nothing I can do
When I realise with fright
That the spiderman is having me for dinner tonight!

QUIETLY HE LAUGHS and shaking his head

Creeps closer now
Closer to the foot of the bed
And softer than shadow and quicker than flies
His arms are all around me and his tongue in my eyes

"Be still be calm be quiet now my precious boy
Don't struggle like that or I will only love you more
For it's much too late to get away or turn on the light
The spiderman is having you for dinner tonight"

AND I FEEL LIKE I'M BEING EATEN
By a thousand million shivering furry holes
And I know that in the morning I will wake up
In the shivering cold

And the spiderman is always hungry...

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TECHNICIAN'S VIEW

LET THEM COME AND LEARN

OUR OPINION: U.S. IMMIGRATION RESTRICTIONS SHOULD BE RELAXED IN ORDER TO ALLOW LEGITIMATE INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS TO COME TO AMERICA AND ATTEND OUR UNIVERSITIES.

Student visas obtained by international students wanting to study in the United States grew less than 1 percent during the last academic year, according to a study from the Institute of International Education (IIE). This is the lowest the rate has been in seven years. The IIE blames this drop directly on the restrictions placed on student visas following the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks. Even though it was only two years ago, the lingering effects of the attacks are still being felt.

N.C. State took a big hit in international student numbers after Sept. 11, 2001. From fall 2001 to fall 2002, the number enrolled dropped from almost 2,000 to a little less than 1,600. This year, there are approximately 2,000 international students enrolled, the

majority of them in N.C. State's Graduate School. Each college and academic department has their own requirements, and admits the number of international students they want each year. There are no centralized requirements for international students to attend NCSU; each department makes the decision. With that, while the national average of international students has dropped, NCSU has enrolled about the same amount as it had in the past.

Of course, there are always problems. According to the Office of International Scholars and Student Services (OISSS), this year about 30 students were unable to attend in the fall semester due to visa delays. This is a common occurrence at universities across the country. Because of the strict regulations now in place, and because the Sept. 11, 2001 hijackers were admitted to the country on student visas, the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) is keeping out bright and deserving students that

are truly on a successful academic track. Many students are staying away from the United States, favoring countries like Great Britain and Australia to avoid being tangled in a web of red tape. Many students from India and China prefer Australia, because many universities there can issue student visas without going through the government.

Yes, there should be extra precautions taken in immigrant screening to prevent another terrorist attack. But many students that can't get a better education outside of the United States are being shut out needlessly, in favor of stricter immigration laws that only give the illusion of heightened safety. The INS should allow students going to accredited universities (not bogus flight schools) in and screen better for academic achievement. To severely limit the number of students that come every year does the world a great disservice, since the some of the best schools are in the United States.

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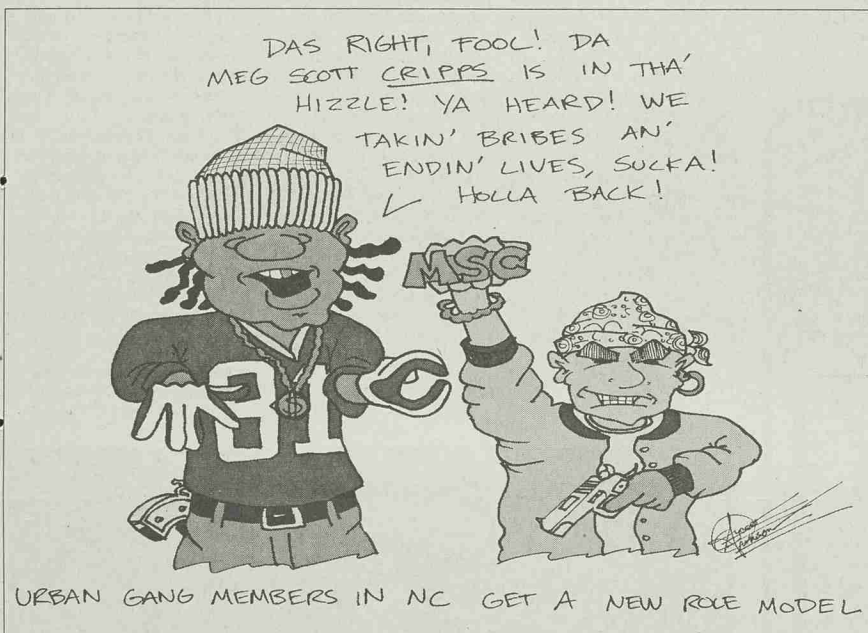
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Our fees pay for what?!

Student Body Treasurer, sorts out the whole tuition and fee fiasco.

[Editor's note: Student Body Treasurer asked to write a column to clarify misconceptions many had about tuition and student fees.]



Seth Lester
 Student Body Treasurer

Many students feel overwhelmed with all these different terms and procedures regarding tuition and fees, so I'm dabbling in print to shed a little light onto these very hotly debated matters. My goal is for you to feel a bit more educated about the hot topic of the rising costs of a college education. My most genuine wish is that you do something with that education — share it, act on it, learn more, or make a difference.

The most prominent question that I've come across in explaining all this to students is, "What is the difference between tuition and student fees?" Though many students hold the misconception that Student Fees and Tuition fall under the same category, the simple difference between Tuition and Fees is the difference in the way they are spent.

Your tuition money is spent on things like decreasing class size, increasing faculty salary, bumping up the number of sections of classes, and a slew of other things, including upkeep and maintenance of all academic buildings.

Your fee money would be spent on things of a non-academic nature, such as building a bigger, better gymnasium, or maybe demolishing Harrelson Hall and building a new Student Center in its place, or perhaps building a time machine to send Gary the Brickyard Preacher back to 1969. Wouldn't that be fun?

But nonetheless, with the thick and thin of that out of the way, we then move to the situation at hand. Buildings are falling down, a gymnasium is overcrowded, Jane in the College of Management can't register for that class she needs for graduation, faculty are being enticed and lured away with bigger and better salaries, and students are poorer than they've ever been. This problem certainly isn't for us to bear alone, though, as it plagues almost every public university in the United States today.

Couple that with decreasing state support, as higher education has taken the back seat in North Carolina's famously backwards General Assembly, and an economy in shambles. The result is universities everywhere scavenging for money faster than a crack pusher with a van full of VCRs.

What's an institution of higher learn-

ing to do? Getting money from state and federal governments is comparable to juicing an onion with your left hand. Having no other source for money, the university must turn to its only source left — you!

And, as universities across the nation are milking money out of their cash cows, the students, more and more of these cows are buying the farm. That is, they're leaving without a degree and a mound of debt.

For some people, it's just too expensive to be a student. But many students now are leaving school wondering if the debt is really worth the education. In 1995, the average debt for a student leaving undergraduate school was roughly \$10,000. In just 6 years, that number shot up beyond \$15,000. Students now are leaving with as much as \$20,000 and \$25,000 in total combined debt, and with an average of four credit cards, some of which are maxed out.

Picture graduation: Starry-eyed students in elegant commencement wear, all lined up to take their degree, go out into the world, and follow their dreams. Their hearts led them to this success, but their debts will land them a much less palatable reality.

With today's sour job market, most graduates can consider themselves lucky to even snag a job. And if they do, it's not going to pay what a student needs to cover living costs and debt repayment.

With an ever-increasing debt looming and no end in sight, our graduates do the most feasible thing possible — file for Chapter 7 bankruptcy. Some turn to less ethical solutions. Some even choose to end their debt by putting a pistol in their mouth and firing. And, with genuine honesty and assuredness, all of these situations are on the rapid rise.

Then we have the students who will never be granted the opportunity of a higher education, for they could never expect to afford these rising costs. With an increasing amount of students playing higher education hooky, we've got a growing number of folks who remain unemployed due to their lack of a degree.

Moreover, with this denial of higher education to its citizenry, N.C. blindly continues to cherish its reputation as "The Outhouse State."

So, let's recap: we've got dropping graduation rates, increasing bankruptcies, and students and recent graduates with no extra money to spend beyond the costs required to keep themselves afloat. Oh, and let's not forget the dangerous mentality shared by University leaders and state officials alike that almost guarantees the unparalleled growth of the above problems.

Send Seth comments to
 viewpoint@technicianstaff.com.

Occupation then and now

Japan was a successful example of nation building. What about Iraq? Robert Jallall debates U.S. occupation.

The occupation of Iraq has been for a while the major news topic, and on that subject recently, President George W. Bush explained his vision for the country's future, remarking, "We've got very close alliances with Japan now as a result of not only winning a war, but doing the right things in the postwar period."

Bush's comment encourages one to adopt a favorable outlook for the United States' work in Iraq, if the country does indeed follow the course of Japan. Inconveniently for Bush, sound arguments are not made on analogy alone, and they are especially not made on false analogy.

Outside of the fact that they are both occupations, the realities and problems officials face in Iraq are significantly different from those faced in Japan.

Japan's quick recovery from total defeat in 1945 was in no small and un-ironic way affected by its previous two decades of wartime activity. During this time, the country developed modern industries and enough economic and administrative competence to direct those industries in war. More importantly, it developed a capable and tested bureaucracy with the ability to run the country in a legitimate manner.

The great downfall for Japan was that this bureaucracy that waged war before surrender was kept largely in tact during the occupation. An element of great controversy at the time and still today was the pardoning and whitewashing of the emperor's role in the war as well as many top wartime

officials who could have had credible war crime charges brought against them. The analog in Iraq would be forgiving Saddam Hussein and his subordinates and welcoming them into reconstruction plans.

Thus far, the administration has not reacted warmly to any such suggestions, and so it faces the unparalleled task (certainly not in the Japanese occupation) of creating a competent bureaucracy and civil service from nothing.

The administration must also abandon the idea that Japan's success was a function of occupation administration. On the contrary, many of Japan's successes are because the wartime-turned-peace-time bureaucracy was able to resist changes.

The Japanese economic system after the occupation ended, for example, can be termed as essentially a wartime economic system except geared toward producing goods rather than weapons — it was illiberal, heavily regulated, hardly transparent and an anathema to America's capitalism.

On this system, Prime Minister Ikeda Hayato promised and achieved a doubling of Japan's income in 1968, completing the 10-year plan in eight years. At the end of the occupation in 1952, the per capita consumption of Japan was one fifth that of the United States; when Hayato's promise was fulfilled, it was the second largest economy in the world.

Equally damning of America's occupation plans is the realization of democracy in Japan. Simply put, Japan's occupation-borne democracy was far from ideal.

The country has been under one-party control almost continuously since occupation, and occupation authorities themselves squelched many nascent democratic movements. Douglas MacArthur's administration ran an extensive censorship program,

preventing any speech critical of the occupation authorities, the emperor and his buddies, or postwar conditions. These U.S. policies ushered in the semi-democracy that characterizes Japan today.

The inability of the United States to create credible democracy in Japan does not bode well for a Bush administration in Iraq whose biggest political challenge is to establish credibility.

In fact, when talking about credibility, we come across another crucial difference between Iraq and Japan. In the postwar period, "kyodatsu," a mental state of postwar exhaustion, permeated through Japanese society and caused the people to be surprisingly receptive to American occupation.

The Japanese will to fight quickly collapsed after surrender. Out of this kyodatsu condition, the Japanese soon came to treat MacArthur as a hero who saved them from the militarists who started the war.

In addition to Japanese acceptance of occupation, international support from western countries and neighboring countries coalesced around America, and no one questioned the legitimacy of its occupation.

The situation then is a stark contrast to Iraq today, where vocal skeptics exist within Iraq, in countries surrounding Iraq, among American allies and within America itself.

Any American administrator today would wish the Iraqi occupation to transpire as the Japanese one did, but wishes don't make good policy and analogies don't make successful occupations.

For his Iraq plans, one must hope that George Bush has something better than the words that come out of his mouth.

E-mail Robert your thoughts at
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FOOTBALL

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said. "[You can do] play action, it opens up things. Big plays. Big plays."

No had a better view of McLendon's big plays than offensive lineman Leroy Harris.

Harris' block on State's final offensive play opened up the hole through which McLendon ran to the end zone.

"We're a whole different offense when we have T.A. in there," Harris said. "It opens up a lot more weapons, but he's not just a great runner, he's also good out of the backfield for screen passes and swing passes. He's got great

hands, probably the best out of all the running backs."

Amato lobbies Both Matt Schaub and Philip Rivers put up huge numbers Saturday. Rivers threw for 410 yards and four touchdowns; Schaub went for 393 and four scores. Both quarterbacks came into the game as favorites for ACC Offensive Player of the Year honors, and

neither disappointed.

It's just that Rivers was a little better. Amato took the opportunity to remind the media of that fact after the game, too. The coach pointed out the fact that last year, when Schaub's Virginia team beat State 14-9, it likely led ACC media to vote Schaub as conference player of the year.

"Last year, if we make the play on the last play of the [Virginia] game - it would have been a fabulous catch - I wonder if [Rivers] would have won it all last year," Amato said. "Don't forget that now, if you're going to do it one year, don't forget to do it the next year, too, when you're voting for all that stuff."

Rivers owns almost every career ACC passing record.

Senior staff writer Jon Page contributed to this report.

ANDREW

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ricanes. It is great for Clay Aiken concerts. It would be great for an NBA team. For college basketball, it's among the least imposing environments in the ACC. Cameron Indoor Stadium, Littlejohn Coliseum, University Hall, Joel Coliseum and Georgia Tech's "Thriller Dome" are all superior. There is a reason, too, why State fans laughed and mocked North Carolina's Dean E. Smith Center. And when State played at Reynolds, one of the most storied buildings in college basketball history, there was good reason to chide our light blue neighbors to the west. Now, though, no reason.

The Entertainment and Sports Arena is just a newer, glitzier, red-seated Dean Dome. Devoid of character and personality. At least the Dean

Dome is on campus, though, and at least Carolina does not share it with a hockey team.

A while ago, I asked Marcus Melvin if he wished the team still played at Reynolds. Melvin has played only one real game in the Old Barn, a romp over North Carolina A&T last season. But even after one game, he'd trade in a ribbon board and sizzling steaks for the noise meter and the real scent of popcorn any day.

"It's unbelievable, man, it's an unbelievable atmosphere," Melvin said. "The opposing team has no room to breathe, really. They're jumping down your throat, right up close and personal. That's a great thing."

"It's a great experience, and I'm glad to have had it."

So are we. Too bad, it's just a memory.

Andrew Carter can be reached at 515-2411 or andrew@technicianstaff.com



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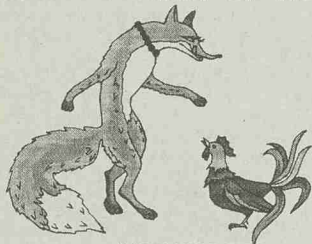
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