

TECHNICIAN

TUESDAY
FEBRUARY
17
2004

Raleigh, North Carolina

Tuition increase still debated

ASG asks for a proposal from all 16 UNC universities detailing how each campus will spend the money generated from tuition increases.

Tyler Dukes
Staff Reporter

Progress towards closure on the issue of the campus initiated tuition increase was impeded last week as the UNC Board of Governors made the decision to delay the debate until their March 19

meeting.

The current campus initiated increase (CITI) proposal, passed by the N.C. State Board of Trustees in November, calls for a three-year, \$300 increase plan to be initiated in the fall of 2004.

Of the projected \$7 million to be generated by the increase, 46 percent will go towards financial aid, 12 percent to the Graduate Student Support Plan and 42 percent to a category called academic excellence. This category includes plans for funding areas such as library resources, academic advice and classroom accessibility.

"Some of the campuses were asked to

provide additional information for the Board of Governors so we can make an informed decision," board member Hannah Gage said. "Our committee wants to make sure that any increase will impact the educational learning experience of the students."

Much of the information requested by the Board of Governors from the UNC campuses centers around the indistinct plans for the destination of tuition increase funding.

According to board member and president of the UNC Association of Student Governments, Jonathan Ducote, the lack of accountability for CITI funding has

decreased the effectiveness of past tuition increases.

"The way the process has been working for the last few years is that essentially, black checks are being written," Ducote said. "We have seen dramatic increases with essentially the exact same level of quality and production on the campus."

In an effort to increase accountability for this and future tuition increases, Ducote has drafted a resolution asking for specific details from the 16 campuses regarding how tuition revenue

TUITION see page 2

Elections off to a sluggish start

Books opened yesterday for the Spring 2004 elections.

Kenneth Ball
Staff Reporter

The 2004 Spring Elections kicked off Monday as books opened for students to file for various Student Government positions.

Elective offices available this year include the positions of student body president, treasurer and chief justice, student senate president, senior class president and Union Activities Board president. Additionally, many seats are available in the Student Senate, the Student Media Authority, and the Union Board of Directors.

The first and only candidate to declare his intent to run as of yesterday is Andrew Tanker, who is running for the Senior CHASS Senator position.

"I went by the office today to talk to the people about ticket distribution, because I hate the way tickets are distributed," Tanker said of his decision to run for office. "I wanted to try and change it and I was told that this was the best way to go about that."

According to Lucy Tatum, a senior in psychology and chair of the elections commission, this year's election may be understaffed.

"The elections commission, which is the people that oversee elections, as it stands has three people on it, and we are supposed to have seven. Tony [Caravano] just recently appointed the other four, but they still have to be approved by the Senate," Tatum said.

According to Tatum, there is some question as to whether all these appointees will receive Senate approval.

ELECTION see page 2

Nubian Message back on track



Shawna Jones, editor of the Windhover art magazine, considers a point during the SMA meeting Monday night.

The SMA Board met last night to discuss the goals and consistency of the Nubian Message.

Jessica Horne
Deputy News Editor

After a heated meeting at the beginning of February, some Student Media Authority members expected Monday's meeting to be just as tense.

However, the SMA meeting proceeded in a relatively calm manner as Jerry Blackmon, a graduate student and editor in chief for the Nubian Message, addressed the board's concerns with the consistency and frequency of the publication, as well as goals and plans for recruitment.

His update comes two weeks after board members voted to remove a mo-

tion, passed in December, that outlined several stipulations for the Nubian Message to meet or the board would vote on the editor's position.

At the board's January meeting, Blackmon and the weekly newspaper's adviser, Cat Warren, disputed claims about intellectual property violations. The presentation prompted members to vote for a new motion that asked only for a recruitment update and weekly meetings between Blackmon and the SMA adviser.

At Monday's meeting, the Nubian Message presented recruitment plans.

Miranda Houston, a senior in psychology and managing editor for the Nubian Message, presented the goals of the paper and categorized them into

NUBIAN see page 2

Sleeping out for a good cause

Phi Beta Sigma to sleep out on campus to raise money for Raleigh Rescue Mission.

Diane Cordova
and Anna Martin
Staff Reporters

As students walk by the Free Expression Tunnel Friday they may wonder why students of the Greek community are sleeping out in the cold.

For almost 12 hours, members of Phi Beta Sigma Inc., a historically black fraternity, will brave chilly temperatures to help the homeless of Raleigh.

Sleep Out for the Homeless begins 9 p.m. Friday and ends 8 a.m. the next morning.

"We wanted to give back to the community. We're giving help to people who can't accomplish things on their own," the fraternity's social chair McKinlay Jeannis, a sophomore in political science, said.

According to Jeannis, the fraternity members plan to sleep in cardboard boxes if they are able to get in touch

with the night crew at a local Wal-Mart.

If that plan falls through, they're planning to use sleeping bags or tents.

While the fraternity's members are stationed outside they will be collecting food and clothes to be sent to the Raleigh Rescue Mission, a homeless shelter.

"I think it's a great idea. I hope they get enough support. This will hopefully give the student body some awareness about what's going on in the community," David Lee, a sophomore in First Year College, said.

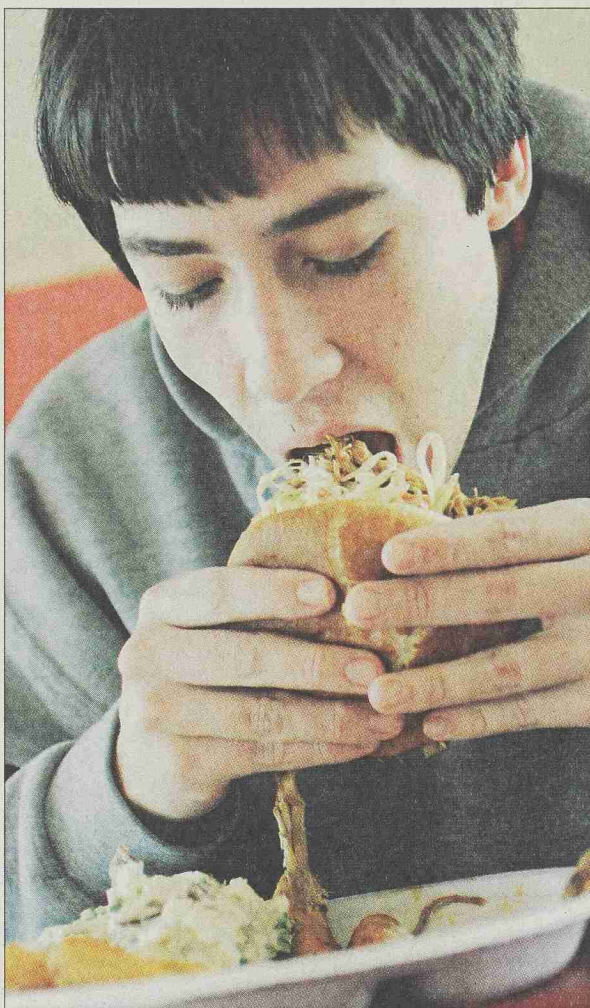
The fraternity spent this past week writing letters and visiting local businesses to garner support, as well as posting flyers and sending e-mails to other Greek organizations.

The fraternity has been challenging other organizations including Phi Beta Sigma chapters from other colleges, such as East Carolina University, to participate in the event for at least two hours.

The last sleep out took place during

SLEEPING see page 2

PIGGIN' OUT



Andrew Roberson, a sophomore in industrial design, has a late lunch at the Q-Shack on Monday. Roberson tried the barbecue sandwich at the new Hillsborough Street restaurant. "It's my first time [here]," he said. "I'm trying it out today."

Virus patients increase

The virus could be stopped if the campus community will heed Student Health warnings.

News Staff Report

While some students spent Monday morning recovering from celebrations after the men's basketball win against Duke, 40 students spent their morning in the Student Health Center, complaining of vomiting and diarrhea, according to Dr. Mary Bengtson, medical director for Student Health Services.

According to Bengtson, the Student Health Center has seen 200 students complaining of gastrointestinal symptoms since Feb. 9. Symptoms include nausea, vomiting and diarrhea, along with additional symptoms of fever, fatigue and headache.

"Norovirus has been determined to be the cause, and symptoms last an average of 1-2 days," Bengtson said. "Treatment includes medications to control nausea, vomiting, diarrhea and fever; a special diet of clear liquids during maximum symptoms; and IV fluids for those who are severely dehydrated."

"No consistent link to any food, restaurant, residence or place of gather-

VIRUS see page 2

insidetechnician

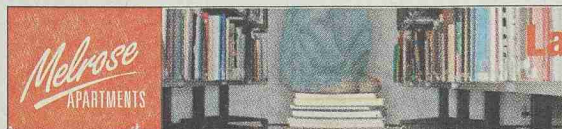


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No Place Like Doak
See page 8.



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NC State is conducting a survey of currently enrolled graduate and undergraduate students to better understand attitudes about diversity and to determine what we need to do to make NC State a better place for everyone. Please take this opportunity to have your voice heard.

If you complete the survey by noon on Wednesday, February 16 you will be entered into a drawing in which four respondents will be randomly selected to win a \$25 gift certificate to the NC State Bookstore.

Currently enrolled undergraduate students can use their Unity ID and password to access the survey on the web at:
http://www2.acs.ncsu.edu/UPA/survey/campusclimate_undergrad.htm
 And graduate students at:
http://www2.acs.ncsu.edu/UPA/survey/campusclimate_grad.htm

Questions? Contact Jose Picart, NCSU Vice Provost for Diversity and African American Affairs at 515-3607 or University Planning and Analysis at 515-4184.



Are you an identical TWIN?

Research Triangle Institute (RTI) needs people to participate in a study about twins and human scent. You may qualify for the study if you:

- Are an identical twin.
- At least 18 years old, including your twin, sibling or parent.
- Would be willing to travel to Asheville, NC or Williamsburg, VA for the study to stay for 5 days (Fri – Tues).
- Would provide sweat and blood samples from you, your twin, and a sibling or parent.

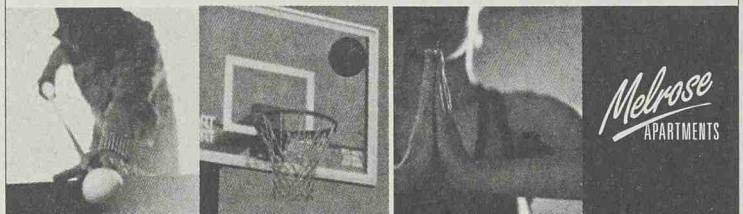
If you are willing to participate, and qualify for the study, RTI will provide accommodations for four nights for each person, one dinner for two the first night at a resort location for each person, and an additional \$100 at the end of the study. It will be required that both twins and one sibling or parent of the twins also join the study and attend the same five days.

For further details and information, contact: Michelle Spruill
 toll free 1-800-334-8571 extension 5591.



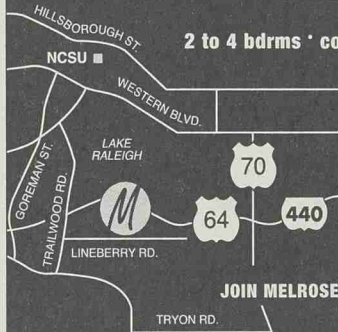
Your Thursday

- Review Biology notes on Melrose fitness center treadmill
- Campus library for art history books
- Leftover Thai from fridge
- Attend Survival 101 (a.k.a. Melrose life skills session)
- Yoga to wind down



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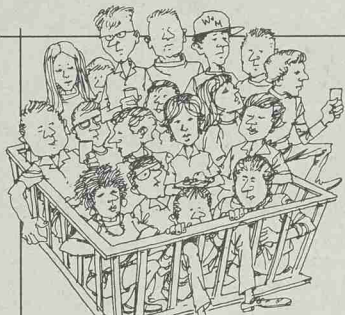
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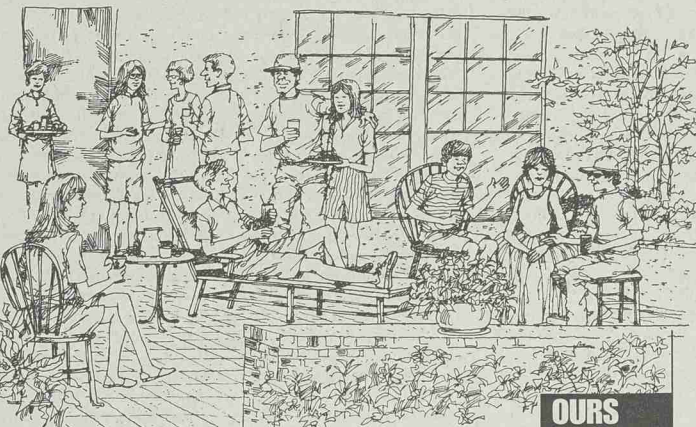
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APPLICATIONS FOR EDITOR

DEADLINE : Thursday, Feb. 19, 2004 at noon (321 Witherspoon)
INTERVIEW : Monday, March 1, 2004 at 7 p.m.
 (AACC Multipurpose Room, 126 Witherspoon)
SELECTION : Immediately after interview

So you want to apply for editor. Congratulations. Just for considering the idea, you're putting yourself in an elite class of people at North Carolina State University — a class of people with the power to change the very direction in which this university moves.

QUALIFICATIONS

- Candidates must have been a member of the staff for at least two full semesters.
- Candidates must have at least a 2.25 grade point average.
- Candidates must have at least two semesters remaining as an N.C. State University student.
- Candidates must be a full-time N.C. State University student unless in final semester of course of study.

STEP ONE: The position paper

The position paper is due Thursday, Feb. 19 by noon to 321 Witherspoon. As we are a deadline-driven organization, papers won't be accepted, copied or distributed late. A good position paper is probably 3-5 pages, double-spaced and typed. Presentation is important. In your position paper, you can address anything you like. Consider dealing with the issues noted at the right, but NOT be limited or restricted to this list. Sample copies of past position papers are available for inspection with the student media adviser. With your position paper, attach a photocopy of your official transcript showing that you meet the academic requirements. (You may also provide a printout of your online record or come by the Student Media office and speak with the Student Media adviser to provide documentation of your student status.)

STEP TWO: The interview

The members of the Student Media board will pick up your papers. You may contact them by e-mail or phone or talk with them in person to answer questions prior to the board meeting which will be at 7 p.m. March 1. During the meeting, each candidate will be given 10 minutes or so to answer questions, ask questions and/or give a statement.

STEP THREE: The selection

After you make your presentation and answer questions, you'll leave the room. You may not be in the room, nor can any other candidates, during the deliberations. The group will vote for their choice of editor and will be announce their choice immediately.

If you have any questions or concerns, don't hesitate to contact any of the current staff or the student media adviser.

POSSIBLE ISSUES TO ADDRESS

- What is your experience (here at N.C. State and elsewhere) that makes you the best qualified for the position?
- Why do you want the job? And it is a job. The editors will influence what students at N.C. State know about their fellow students. They produce what will be an integral part of the history of the university forever. And they are entrusted with the wise spending of student fees to benefit students.
- How do you intend to improve upon the foundation past staffs have built? Or do you just intend to maintain things the way they are?
- How do you relate to fellow staff members?
- What will you bring, personally, to the position?
- How will you ensure that your media best serves students?
- What are your goals? Be specific. Don't have glittering generalities. Address monetary issues. Have a vision. What about the quality of the media? What about the content?
- How do you intend to train your staff?

CURRENT STAFF

- Agromeck • Jaime Trivette
- Americana • Nathaniel Horner
- Technician • Thushan Amarasiriwardena and Carie Windham
- Nubian Message • Jerry Blackmon
- Windhover • Shawna Jones
- WKNC • Jamie Proctor
- Student Media adviser • Bradley Wilson

NCSU STUDENT MEDIA

321 Witherspoon Student Center | NCSU Box 7318 | Raleigh, NC 27695

MUSIC

Talkie Walkie

Air
Astralwerks

★★★★★

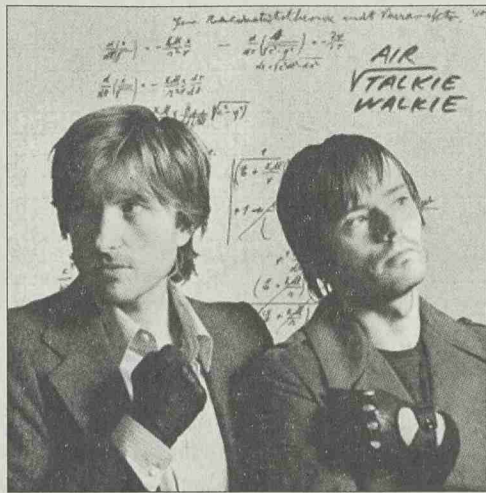
If I was a Martian rover, and I was diggin' on some other Martian rover chick, I would play this album while I tried to make some moves with my mass spectrometer.

Coming from an ex-mathematician and an ex-architect, it's not surprising that the album is polished to perfection and technically sound in every way.

The album opens up with "Venus," which sets the mood for the Martian make-out session with pounding piano chords and reverbed claps, with the lines "You could be from Venus, I could be from Mars." Borrowing elements reminiscent of electronic rock, symphonic pop and prog-rock, Air's sound is like the love child of Vangelis, Tangerine Dream, Pink Floyd and Burt Bacharach (use your imagination).

Thankfully, the album is not an overstuffed, mutilated hodgepodge, as that marriage might suggest, but rather an airy pop "space dream." At times, the songs can seem a bit shallow, but the lack of complexity is more to the point.

An unexpected follow up to the band's brave and largely misunderstood second album, "10,000 Hz Legend," "Talkie Walkie" takes a step back toward Air's "Moon Safari" sound, albeit in a different direction, with its blazing complexity and turbulent experimental weird-



ness. "Talkie Walkie" is definitely not rock 'n' roll, but the album defies classification as anything else. Songs on "Talkie Walkie" have instruments like the vibraphone, moog synthesizer, theremin, harpsichord and even some banjo and whistling, all which make the album different to experience with each listen.

Not meant to be cute, "Talkie Walkie" is just how they say it in Le French, the band's native language.

You may have heard Air on Sofia Coppola's "The Virgin Suicides" soundtrack or the more recent "Lost in Translation" soundtrack, which features the track "Alone in Kyoto" that can also be found on "Talkie Walkie."

Expect to hear more songs from this album on soundtracks and maybe even a few commercials in the future. Some of the tracks on "Talkie Walkie" have a marketable quality to them, which is not always good. Songs that are used to conjure up images of floating in space could be substituted for some slimy foot cream commercial or something, similar to what happened with the media's destruction of "Moon Safari" in Revlon commercials.

If you liked any of the previous Air releases, or any of the Air format bands, like Zero 7 or Bent, you should like their newest as well.

- Chris Reynolds

Start Something

Lostprophets
Columbia Records

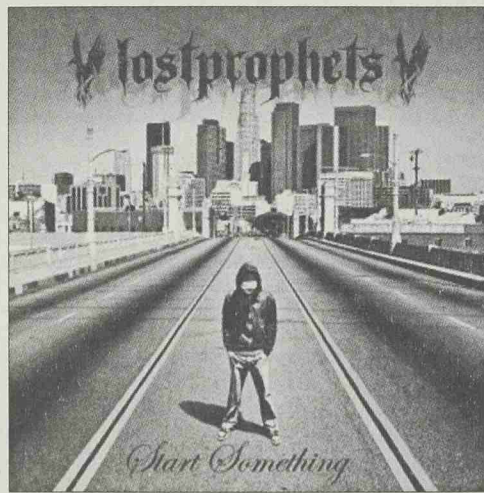
★★★★★/2

The Lostprophets emerged on the backside of a "nu-metal" trend that penetrated the rock radio waves and even (eventually) MTV. It crept in maliciously with intent to destroy all that was sacred about both hard rock and heavy metal.

There are a few factors that set aside Lostprophets, and particularly their new album, "Start Something." One, Ian Watkins can really sing. He isn't just screaming to fill in the painful array of power chords. Second, the band plays power chords - as any band would from time to time - but the power chords don't define their music. Lee Gaze and Mike Lewis complement each other very well on guitars, mixing elements of punk, thrash, metal and standard rock. Gaze even plays a few guitar solos...and they're good!

The opening track, "We Still Kill the Old Way," sets the tone for the record. Watkins croons through the track in a rangy manner that Faith No More's Mike Patton would have to applaud. "To Hell We Ride" follows the opener in nearly the same fashion - a very "guitary" verse with your customary heavy chorus accompanied by painful screams. The track ends strong though, with a couple of good bridges and vocal rants.

The two singles from the album, "Last Train Home" and "I Don't Know," are actually quite masterful considering the genre,



and great choices for singles. "Last Train Home" explores more musically than the opening two tracks, taking a mellower avenue with a sing-along chorus. "I Don't Know" sounds strikingly like an Incubus song circa 1999, primarily because of the vocal similarities of Watkins and Brandon Boyd, the bass-heavy verse and DJ Jamie Oliver's scratching.

Watkins' vocals really reek of Mike Patton in tracks like "Hello Again," "Burn, Burn" and "Goodbye Tonight," which are all gems on the album. "Goodbye Tonight" has a more poppy Jimmy Eat World feel to it, with a fist-pumping, upbeat tone.

Of course, every album has to have weak spots. But the guys in Lostprophets did a good

job filling in possible scrutiny holes by only having about two songs that don't measure up to the rest of the album. "Make a Move" and "A Million Miles" don't exactly meet the same standards as the rest of the album, though drummer Mike Chiaplin is showcased a bit in "A Million Miles." The band closes the album with ambience and serenity in "Sway," which implements piano in the musical scheme.

This album is solid through and through for the most part, though it doesn't have the punch of an album with at least three or so powerhouses. But the weaknesses are too few to not call this a good album.

- Joel DeBerry

When the Sun Goes Down

Kenny Chesney
BNA Records

★★★★/2

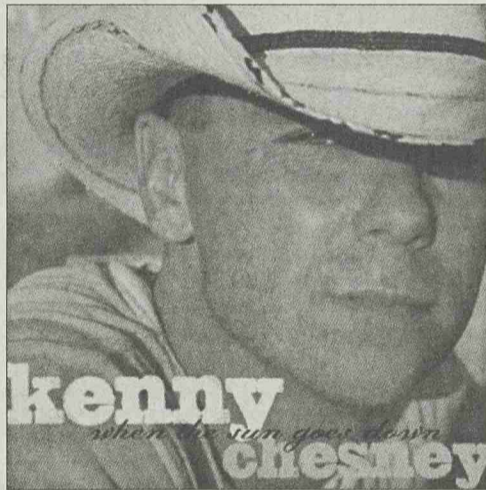
Tight jeans, bright blue eyes and a cowboy hat complemented the profitable act Kenny Chesney brought to sold-out stadiums last summer after his 2002 very successful release of "No Shoes, No Shirt, No Problems." Hits like "The Good Stuff," "Young" and "I Remember" reflect on past loves, growing up and a carefree life - themes hardly novel to country music. Yet, despite being stacked with country cliches, he and his songwriters inevitably produce catchy hits that leave fans wanting more.

His recent release, "When the Sun Goes Down," will surely be a crowd pleaser if listeners are not expecting incredibly new and matured sounds. The album is merely a "No Shoes, No Shirt, No Problems" part II filled with nostalgic tear-jerking songs about lost young love, beach vacations and, of course, drinking.

However, for many, that's perfectly fine. Chesney is just as fun and carefree as ever, making "When the Sun Goes Down" equally upbeat and enjoyable, even if not too novel.

Clinging to his Jimmy Buffet-like dreams of beaches, boats, blue water and margaritas, Chesney sings of his ideal lifestyle in "Outta Here" and the title track duet with Uncle Kracker, "When the Sun Goes Down." While great for beach bum sing-alongs, they are not among Chesney's best.

The almost laughable tracks, "Being Drunk's a Lot Like Loving You" and "Keg in the Closet" are strictly for entertainment value. "Keg" is likely to be this year's fraternity house anthem. While no Chesney album would



be complete without a shout-out to East Tennessee State University, "Keg" flashbacks to his old fraternity house where he woke-up to old pizza on the floor after party-filled nights. He declares, "We went to class just to pass the time / We had all we ever wanted with that keg in the closet." Cheesy and tacky, yes, but the lyrics are likely to be coveted and hailed in fraternity houses across the country.

Among some of the less ridiculous songs on the album is "I Go Back," where Chesney embraces the images and experiences of his youth and college years with bittersweet nostalgia. He sings, "Every time I hear that song, I go back to the smell of that old gym floor / Taste of salt on a Carolina shore / After graduation drinkin' good-bye to friends." He also provokes memories of the past in "Anything But Mine," when Chesney reflects on a perfect, but temporary hot summer love.

"When the Sun Goes Down" contains three live recordings

and "Please Come to Boston" is by far one of the best on the album. Desperately pleading with his love to follow him city to city, her response is, "Boston ain't your kind of town / There ain't no gold and there ain't no one like me / I'm the number one fan of the man from Tennessee."

Despite monotonous and silly themes that critics are sure to laugh at, Chesney has used this formula before and there is no doubt, it works.

While he is currently one of the biggest country music stars, maybe there is no need for the Tennessee darling to change his sound. The fans will surely come running and the radio will embrace "When the Sun Goes Down," but recycled songs about spring break beach trips, high school sweethearts and, of course, kegs have questionable longevity. Objectively, "When the Sun Goes Down" ain't that great, but it's Kenny Chesney...which makes it OK.

- Ashley Hink

The Battle for Everything

Five for Fighting
Sony Records

★★★★

In the midst of fear in the post-Sept. 11, 2001 months, Five for Fighting's "Superman" was embraced by Americans and became an anthem of hope. However, the group must not be mistaken for merely optimistic pop piano songs. The only permanent member of the California based group, lead vocalist and songwriter John Ondrasik proves that Five for Fighting is far more dynamic and intriguing than their mainstream radio tunes reveal.

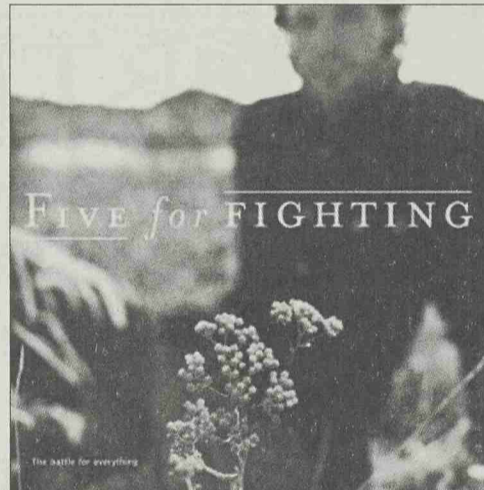
"The Battle for Everything" is a fantastical mix of desperate ballads and surprisingly unique rock songs carried by Ondrasik's passionate voice.

His lyrics reveal misunderstood and broken love and a confused fascination with God, heaven, angels and, interestingly and humorously, women. "The Battle for Everything" maturely explores the depths of human nature from frustrations, love, spirituality and disappointment.

The first single, "100 Years," traces the stages of life and, if not for the up-tempo piano backing and light-hearted vocals, would seem thoroughly depressing. Ondrasik sings, "I'm 33 for a moment / Still the man but you see I'm a they / A kid on the way / A family on my mind." Serving as a reality check for younger generations, "100 Years" is cleverly written, although not nearly as powerful as other songs on the album.

The opening track, "NYC Weather Report" is a passionate declaration of frustrations and the desire to escape them.

Lyrics such as "Got to get away from all these thinkers...drinking up my



thoughts again / Got to get away from here... / Got to get away from all these choosers, losers...all of my best friends" mimic the thoughts of people tired and overwhelmed with commitments.

The playful and upbeat "Angels and Girlfriends" embodies the mixed desires and often blurry understanding men have of relationships. "Angels never come for free / If you know what I know you know what I mean / You can love em now - you can love em later / Girlfriends never fall for fun / They can tie you up make you come undone" echoes the indecisiveness about commitment and the fear of being on "lockdown," as so many guys dread. Five for Fighting cares not to sugarcoat the horrible reality of the sacrifice of freedom one makes in the name of love, or maybe, just girlfriends.

The most passionate, complex and well-written track on the album, "Nobody," paradoxically dishes out advice to make

oneself vulnerable and able to love. The lyrics, "Nothing can be better than baring yourself for another... / Open for scrutiny, ridicule, and indulgence / Therein lies the balls, and the mind, and the heart... / As fear truly is the Mindkiller" reveal a fearless philosophy that one is better to love and lose rather than not love at all. "One More for Love" and "Maybe I" are among the more delicate but slightly sappy love songs on "The Battle." While lyrically sweet, Ondrasik's wailing voice pushes the songs beyond desperate sounding.

Despite a few dreary piano ballads, "The Battle for Everything" is lively, fun and somewhat mysterious in content. Ondrasik seems conflicted between women, life's priorities, growing up and God. Yet, his struggles provide dynamic material for "The Battle" that consequently produces a careful and sophisticated mix of piano pop and rock.

- Ashley Hink

Win a date with Technician

Forget "The Bachelor" and "Average Joe," Technician is offering a chance for one lucky man and one lucky woman to be set up on a blind date. By submitting a 250-word letter explaining why you want to experience this chance of a lifetime along with a photo of yourself, you could be selected to go on a date completely paid for by Technician. If selected

by the editorial board, your photo and information will be placed on the Technician Web site for the entire student body to ogle and vote on. The winners of the male and female categories will win the date. All interested singles can submit their vitals to diversions@technicianstaff.com

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THE EARLY EDITION

TECHNICIAN
your campus, unfolded everyday



TECHNICIAN'S VIEW

STUNTS SHOCKING, BUT NOT WRONG

OUR OPINION: RECENT MEASURES BY CAMPUS GROUPS TO PROTEST AFFIRMATIVE ACTION ARE RUFFLING FEATHERS - BUT ISN'T THAT THE POINT?

The Supreme Court may have ruled on race in college admissions in June, but the battle is still raging on college campuses.

Since the court upheld the University of Michigan's race conscious undergraduate admissions and struck down their 150-point system - which awarded 20 points to applicants based on race - college administrators have been struggling to evaluate their own policies.

Now students are entering the debate, and some of their tactics are causing more controversy than the issue at hand.

The latest, a scholarship being offered only to white students, is a ploy by the College Republicans at Roger Williams University to parody minority scholarships, arguing they should be distrib-

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

uted because of need or merit, not skin color. In an interview with CNN, the group's president, Jason Mattered, said, "Many people think that coming from a white background you're automatically privileged, you're automatically rich and your parents pay full tuition. That's just not the case."

The scholarship offers a \$250 reward and was advertised in the student newspaper.

In a similar measure, students in the Sons of Liberty at the College of William & Mary received permission in January to hold an "Affirmative Action Bake Sale" that staggered prices according to gender and race.

The question is not whether these groups should be allowed to employ such measures. Top administrators at both schools may be rifled, but they are leaving the decision to the students, citing free expression.

But other schools, like Northwestern University and the University of Wash-

ington-Seattle, have shut down Affirmative Action bake sales, while sales at other schools have prompted heated confrontations between students, calling into question whether such protests are appropriate.

But isn't that the point?

The tactics are not the best, perhaps, because they ignore the large number of scholarships given to white students, though unwritten, because of the privileges they have in society. But they are prompting dialogue in a creative manner that is not violent. By parodying minority scholarships through white scholarships and bake sales, student groups are bringing attention to the matter by creating what they believe to be a similar situation.

Disagree or not, it grabs attention.

In that respect, these tactics, while controversial, are entirely appropriate on a college campus to bring passionate advocates for both sides of the issue to the table.

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Webmaster
Doug Steigerwald

How to contact us

Technician
323 Witherspoon
Student Center Box 8608,
NCSU Campus Raleigh, NC
27695-8608

Editorial 515.2411

Advertising 515.2029

Fax 515.5133

Online
technicianonline.com

Editors in Chief
editor@technicianstaff.com

News
news@technicianstaff.com

Viewpoint
viewpoint@technicianstaff.com

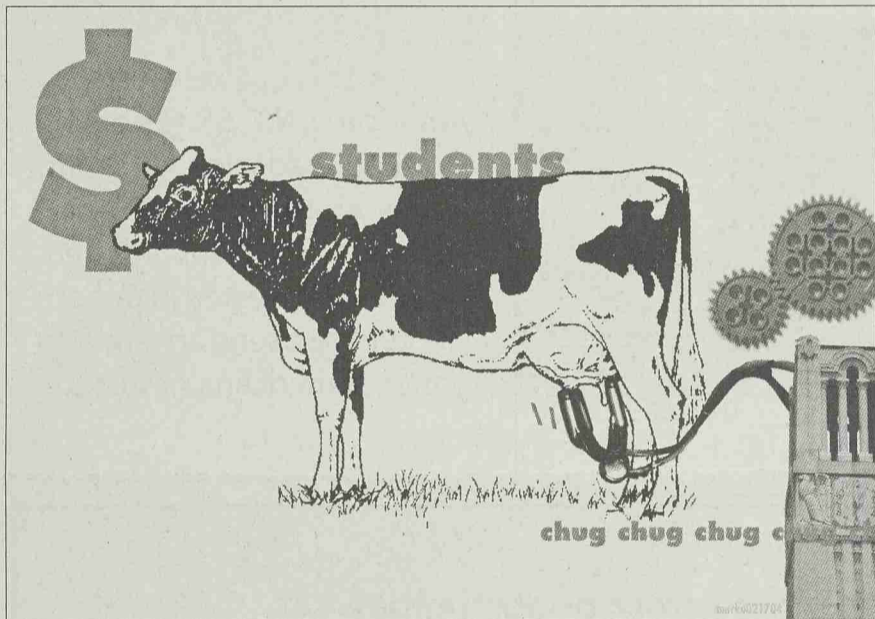
Diversions
diversions@technicianstaff.com

Sports
sports@technicianstaff.com

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The Marine Corps deserves our gratitude

Baruch Mechanic is disgusted that news agencies would disrespect the Marines because of one individual.

I am disgusted that our news broadcasting agencies would have published an article titled "Ex-Marine Pleads Guilty to Girl's Abduction." How dare



Baruch Mechanic
Staff Columnist

they disgrace the name of the United States Marine Corps! I have no sympathy or support for this scumbag individual. Toby Studabaker, 32, pleaded guilty to abduction and incitement to gross indecency of a 12-year-old

girl from Britain that he met in an Internet chat room. The police caught and arrested Studabaker in Germany on July 16, 2003 and said that he did not have sex with the girl and thought she was 18 years of age. That is most likely a lie, especially if he thought she was 18. I hope he gets the maximum penalty for his sick and disturbing crime. However, I adamantly disagree with how the news labeled the story.

The fact is he is dirt, but why disgrace the name of the awesome U.S. Marine Corps. The Marines is one of, if not the best-trained military service branch that exists within this entire world. No other nation's troops come close to our Marine Corps and it fills me with such relief that there are those with this high level of training out there that provide us with our blanket of security. Protecting us to allow us to have movies, grocery stores, bars, shopping malls, coffee shops and just our whole way and standards of life is their job. No matter where they are around the world and what they are doing, the original and sole reason of our nation's

military is for OUR protection. Toby Studabaker as a Marine served with other military personnel in Afghanistan aiding in bringing those who perpetrated Sept. 11, 2001 to justice.

When he committed this horrible crime, he was not an active duty Marine nor was he in the selected Reserves. He was a civilian. So I ask again, why advertise "Ex-Marine?" Does the news enjoy making those good and decent, moral men and women who serve our country's best interests look like pedophiles?

Some people may ask, "Who cares?" Well I say to you ma'am and sir, what have you done to preserve the American way of life that you so much enjoy day after day. You live here, you enjoy your democracy, you enjoy your cable TV and high speed Internet. And all this could not be what it is today if it weren't for the men and women who came before to protect these freedoms. It's not because of politicians, professors, mailmen or athletes, it's because of our service men and women. Even though Studabaker served in one of the most elite fighting forces, he was a nasty individual and is responsible for his cruel acts.

Toby Studabaker joined the Marines in May 2000 and he was awarded the Sea Service medal and national Defense Ribbon before he was voluntarily discharged due to a bad shoulder.

When I read this story from Fox's and BBC's News Web sites they showed Studabaker in dress blues, the Marine Corps' ceremonial uniform. Did they have to do that? I am sure the news agencies could have found a picture of him in civilian attire. Could it be that the "Ex-Marine" part of the title made it more exciting and newsworthy? I mean who cares about a pedophile, right? But wait! He is a for-

mer active duty Marine, oh my goodness! Now the country must know, they have a right to know that there is a Marine out there abducting British girls. How could a Marine do this? After all, during the American Revolution when the British burned down Washington they left the Marine barracks intact for they had great respect for them...I am joking of course. Or rather could it be that the news was feeding off the malicious stereotype that U.S. Marines are nothing but heartless machines bent on terrorization and murder?

Men and women that join the U.S. Marine Corps do not do it out of benefits, sign-up bonuses, and special contracts like the other branches promise. The Marine Corps promises you nothing other than you get the chance to go through hell and from that you earn the title of a Marine.

During graduation from boot camp this moment, of earning the title, is so emotional for the new Marines that they and their families have tears rolling down their cheeks. It is one of the proudest moments that any individual can go through. From that moment, they earn this entire nation's admiration and gratitude as well from those foreign nations that we protect with our lives; although, Studabaker because of his actions deserves none from either. This article has done nothing but to strip some of that respect from our beloved Marine Corps all for the sole purpose of dramatization. What a disgrace!

Godspeed to those men and women who put their lives on the line day in and day out so we can enjoy peace and comfort at home.

Agree with Baruch?
Contact him at
viewpoint@technicianstaff.com.

And here's to you, Mr. Wilson

An open letter to J. Bradley Wilson, chair of the UNC Board of Governors, on the delay of their vote on tuition increases.

Dear Mr. Wilson,
Delaying the tuition vote until March for further research is a wise decision. It will give you a chance to read all those personal stories in that \$20 book printed at the expense of student fees.

Before the UNC Board of Governors is a monumental choice - to raise tuition of the 16 University of North Carolina schools by 9-19 percent, depending on the campus, and potentially force thousands of gifted and otherwise deserving students to drop out because of the prohibitive cost of higher education.

Or, keep the tuition the same for this year and face the building ire of the faculties and staffs who have not received a substantial pay raise in three years, despite increasing living costs.

For the past semester, students have been campaigning at N.C. State, and across the system, to prevent another tuition increase. They have brought statistics and charts to meetings and have fought passionately on behalf of their respective student bodies. Chancellors and provosts have had an earful about "cycles of debt" when it comes to student financial aid. The campaign culminated with the release of the "Personal Stories Project" book, which highlights the struggle of most college students to get by and remain in school. Even Gov. Mike Easley has sent you a letter urging the board not to raise tuition.

Do you see the pattern developing here?

Think about this: our parents (i.e.- your generation) went to school and graduated relatively debt-free. I know my parents did, and they went to Appalachian State University. Many people could go to Duke and Wake Forest and

still afford it. Now our parents are taking out loans, selling off property, working second and even third jobs, along with their children, just to pay tuition and living expenses every semester.

But you can bet that society has drilled into our heads, from the first day of kindergarten, that to succeed in life and be happy, one must have a college degree.

And now there is talk of upping the price of happiness.

Can you see how that is just a bit disconcerting to those on the receiving end of the tuition bill? I hope so.

Now the other sticky issue is faculty and staff salaries. Professors and groundskeepers haven't received a proper pay raise in three years. Many factors go into this: downturn in the economy, cost of higher living, excessive governmental spending.

Let's put this in perspective though; professors make on average \$80,000 a year to teach and research.

Groundskeepers make \$19,000 a year to cut the grass.

And the students, who graduate in debt, pay for it all, while being in overcrowded classrooms and rearranging graduation dates due to dropped class sections.

With respect to your position as an education leader in this state, these are things to keep in the back of your mind. I know you have a lot to think about and decide.

Just like I have to think about where my next meal will come from and if I have enough money to get groceries next week and buy the \$80 textbook for my psychology class.

Anyway, just think about it. Thanks and good luck!

Highest regards,

Ben McNeely
Poor college student

E-mail Ben at
viewpoint@technicianstaff.com.

CAMPUS FORUM

To submit letters to Campus Forum, send your thoughts to viewpoint@technicianstaff.com. Please limit responses to 400 words. Technician reserves the right to edit for grammar, style and size.

Toilet papering the trees are a hassle to groundskeepers

I am writing with hopes that something can be done about the toilet papering that is being thrown in the trees surrounding the various dorms on campus after a major win by the men's basketball team.

Last night's win over Duke and being unbeaten at home were great reasons to celebrate; however, I don't think the Maintenance or Housekeeping staff should suffer as a result.

In addition to the loose paper, there were over a dozen large rolls picked up from the grounds.

To the students that thought it was a great to celebrate by throwing toilet paper in the trees, please STOP!

You are making the jobs of the Housekeeping and Maintenance staff more difficult than they have to be.

For those of you that say this is a "tradition," I

say to you that this is a "tradition" that needs to be brought to an end! It is a waste of time and energy, not to mention a waste of money.

I wonder if some of that toilet paper was bought and paid for by North Carolina taxpayers.

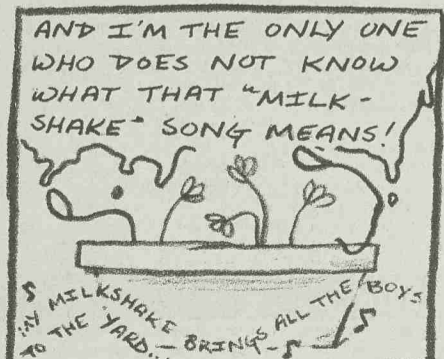
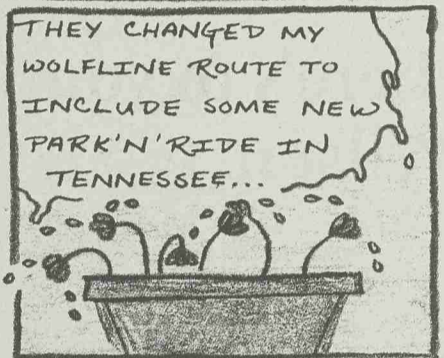
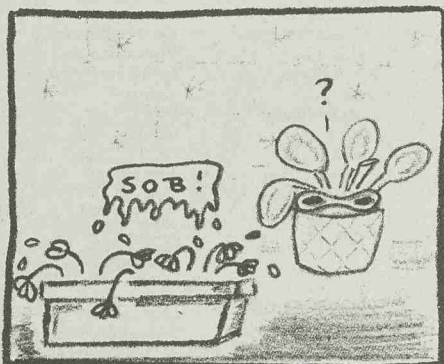
How ironic that an institution of higher learning that encourages diversity and respect of others, falls short of extending that same courtesy to its very own staff.

I encourage and challenge you to do something about this situation. The regular basketball season is coming to a close, soon it's going to be tournament time, and let's not forget March Madness!

I'm sure there will be more wins and more celebrations; quite frankly, I'm tired of picking up toilet paper.

Tyrone Hicks
General Utility Worker

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AMERICANA

Americana, N.C. State's online student magazine, is hiring a new editor for the Humor section to start immediately. If you are interested in this position, please send an e-mail to editor@americana.ncsu.edu.

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Information Session

Thursday, February 19
Talley Student Center Blue Room, 6:00 p.m.
Pizza and sodas will be provided.

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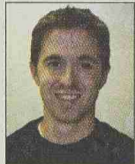
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EEO/AA



Queer eye for PC guy

Political correctness sucks. Or, should I say, political correctness has the characteristics of a vacuum cleaner.



Andrew B. Carter
Deputy Sports Editor

Political correctness is straight. Or, should I say, political correctness has the characteristics of a heterosexual. Political correctness is gay. Or, should I say, political correctness has the characteristics of a homosexual.

You don't have to have a queer eye for the politically correct guy to come to the realization that two words have hamstrung an entire nation obsessed with not offending anything or anyone. There's no excuse for mailmen becoming mail persons, salesmen becoming sales persons and chairmen becoming chair persons. Pretty soon, the words "boy" and "girl" will be deemed sexist, and some goon who made up the term "sales person" will come up with a new word to describe the sexes.

It's enough to make a person ordinarily gay turn violent with anger.

Also not-so-gay is the abuse Scooter Sherrill took late last week for describing the follow-through of Duke's J.J. Redick, saying the Blue Devil sophomore held up his hand after he made a shot "like he's gay or something."

It's this kind of hilarious comment — and believe me, everyone in the conference room at Case Athletic Center howled with laughter — that makes the modern athletic press conference bearable. Sure, the local newspaper had a right to print Sherrill's comments, even after media relations director Annabelle Vaughan joked with and chided the reporters to keep it private. But all the people who were enraged by Sherrill's remarks should not have been. It's called a sense of humor, folks. Herb Sendek bought one a while ago, and it's done wonders for him.

When Sherrill spoke the words — laughing the entire time and speaking with the seriousness of the funny pages — he never could have imagined the vat loads of crap he'd get in return. And you wonder why athletes have the flavor of skim milk? It's because they're afraid of the backlash.

Apparently, many thought Sherrill's comments to be so offensive that they overwhelmed athletics director Lee Fowler with enraged emails and angry phone calls. The outcry prompted Fowler to issue a standard, molded-plastic apology that had all the sincerity of the word of a used car "sales person." I'm sure Fowler didn't even want to issue a statement, but that's what society expects.

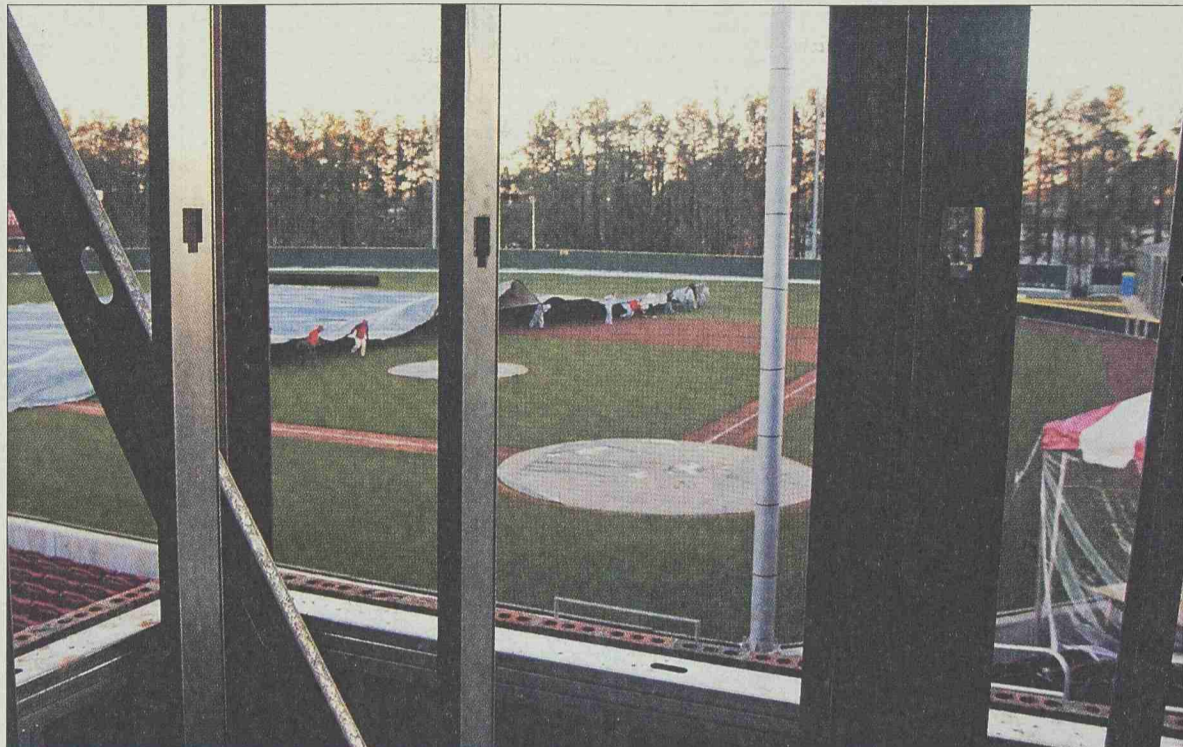
Ever wonder why so many high-profile athletes on high-profile teams give so many of the exact same answers during interviews? Ever wonder why reading quotes on the sports page is often slightly less fun than reading your old geometry textbook?

It's like they all go to the same PC shop (the one where they've also purchased around 798 shares of stock) and clean off the shelves. Take this recent exchange between Scribe, an inquisitive young journalist, and Cheese Brains, an athlete with the electricity of a brown paper bag:

Scribe: Cheese, what do you think of that guy, blockhead. He seems to get under your skin at times, am I right?

Cheese brains: Oh, no sir. Blockhead is just playing his game. So am I. We're gonna throw it up and see what happens this weekend. May the best team win. It's all fun in love and

No place like Doak



As seen through the new press box, construction of Doak Field progresses while the baseball team continues to use the field.

TAYLOR TEMPLETON/TECHNICIAN

N.C. STATE ATHLETIC OFFICIALS BELIEVE THAT DOAK WILL BE AMONG THE FINEST BASEBALL FACILITIES IN THE COUNTRY WHEN COMPLETED.

Ian Jester
Staff Writer

Since Doak Field opened as the home of N.C. State baseball in 1966, the program has enjoyed several triumphant seasons, including five ACC championships and 17 trips to the NCAA tournament. Consistency on the field has mirrored the consistency in the field, as throughout its history, Doak had seen only one improvement to its facilities with the addition of lights in 1995.

As of one year ago, before the start of the 2003 season, that was still true.

And what a historic season it was, as the Wolfpack ran to the NCAA Super Regionals and finished with its highest national ranking since 1968, when it advanced to the College World Series.

The Pack accomplished that much in 2003 while only playing 10 home games, as Doak Field underwent major surgery.

The rest of the "home" games moved away from campus to venues such as Kinston, Clayton and Wilson. The idea was not to increase stress on the team, but Doak field had since been torn apart, the beginning effects of a \$6.7 million renovation instituted in July 2002.

Among the new upgrades is an operations and clubhouse building that will house locker rooms, coaches' offices, an equipment room, training room and even an umpires' locker room. Yet, the first and foremost task was to level the playing field, which was uneven at the old Doak.

"From home plate to right field there was an 8-foot drop in elevation," said Senior Associate Athletic Director David Horning. "You couldn't tell based on where you were standing from right field whether the play was at first base or second base. Some called it a home field advantage."

Moving the entire field out created more space between home plate and the parking lot and gave the opportunity for adding more seats. The left field fence, known as the "Red Monster," was made higher to adjust for moving the field outward, and with the extra space, there is room for nearly 2,500 seats. In addition, the grandstands will all have chair-back seating compared to concrete benches in the past.

Besides the new clubhouse building, a 1,200-square-foot press box will seat 40 media members above the grandstands, and the players will have



TAYLOR TEMPLETON/TECHNICIAN

A plastic red fence separates outsiders from construction equipment used to renovate Doak.

indoor and outdoor practice facilities to use. There are even plans to have wireless Internet available to students watching the game with a laptop in hand.

"What isn't going to be improved?" Bruce Winkworth, NCSU assistant director for media relations, said. "They could pull the old ballpark down and start from scratch."

Impatience can hinder the goal, despite the astonishing magnitude of such a renovation and the excitement of what the future holds. Although nearly 19 months have passed since the overhaul first began, one has to remember that Doak has never seen such meaningful improvements in its entire history. And even though the weather caused the timetable for completion to move back, directors of the new stadium are very optimistic about an expected date of March 20 for completion.

"The basic goal was to bring [Doak] up to NCAA regional standards so that we can host a regional in the future," Horning said. "We want to try and improve the ballpark for the fan experience, where you want to bring someone to the

game, have nice chair-backs, sit there and watch a baseball game."

Moreover, the benefits of the renovation extend not only to improving the fan's experience but also to recruiting future players.

"Doak Field has always been a neat place to play just because it's in a nice setting," Horning said. "Obviously all of the schools across the country, whether it be the Auburns, or the South Carolinas, or the Clemsons, they've all put money into their baseball facilities. So it has been a recruiting issue for us because when recruits come to campus, they want to see a real nice baseball facility. And we feel like we have one now."

And as far as the timetable goes, this year's team hasn't thought twice about what day the renovation will be complete.

"We're just happy to be in our locker room right now," Mike Rogers, sophomore pitcher, said. "Last year, we heard it might be done, but we really didn't think about it. We're looking forward to the games and teams we have to play instead of worrying about the renovations."

DOAK FIELD BY THE NUMBERS



SOURCE: NCSU MEDIA RELATIONS